the latest ISSUE

volume four
issue five

FREE

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**Call Your City Councilmember** at 264-5407, and voice your support for the Sacramento Domestic Partner's Ordinance and counter-act the many calls by the religious right.

*See story on page 3*

SACRAMENTO'S NEWS MAGAZINE FOR THE GAY COMMUNITY AND ITS FRIENDS

Times of lesbian and gay oppression and compassion

# History Through the Eyes of our Elders

**While many of us are familiar with Sacramento's history and consider ourselves knowledgeable on gay and lesbian issues, how much do we really know about the history that has made lesbian and gay Sacramento what it is today?**

**This is the first of a four-part series that focuses on the unique issues of older gays and lesbians.**

by **Lora Connelly**

Everything was over the line back then. Those days were the 50s and the 60s. The line was the Yolo County line and South Sacramento was "sin city" and where you'd find the gay bars.

"Let's see in the 60s, when I moved to Sacramento, there was the Log Cabin and one other place," remembered Ernie Brown, a long-time Sacramentan and bartender at the Mercantile Saloon. "It was a great time to be coming out. Everyone was friendly. After the bar closed at 2 a.m., everyone would grab a six pack and head off to whomever was having the party. We'd all just stay the night. Sunday morning, someone would get the eggs and bacon going and we'd all have a huge breakfast," he recalled. "We all cared about each other then and treated each other with respect."

But the risk associated with being homosexual was also something Ernie remembered well. "There'd be a guard at the bar door, and when any stranger came to the door, he's call out: 'Break!' Then all dancing would stop and everybody sitting at the bar would get their elbows up on the counter. No touching. Then if someone recognized the person who'd come in, everyone would relax," he explained.

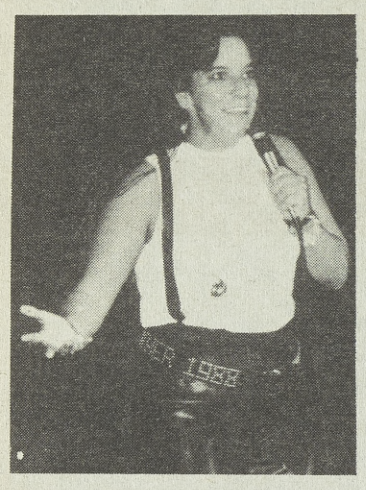
According to Ernie, Sacramento's earliest gay bar was a semi- private

*Continued on page 16*

Kate Moore

**Ernie Brown and Roy Brinson (Aunt Rose).**

# Faces Presents



Comedian
## Shan Carr
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9 p.m. In Faces Video Room
A showing of the first Gay and Lesian TV Comedy
**"Out for Laughs"**

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$.75 DRAFT - $3.25 PITCHERS
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PARTY WITH CHEERLEADERS
(THE PIG) STACEY AND
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# FACES

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MONDAY -- FOOTBALL (SEE ABOVE)

TUESDAY -- NIGHT STRIPPERS

WEDNESDAY -- LADIES NIGHT COUNTRY AT 7P.M. FREE LESSONS, 8 TILL 10:30 P.M. DANCE DANCE DANCE MUSIC AT 10:31 ON... WITH DJ PATTY PARDUE

FRIDAY -- OLDIES DISCO MUSIC FROM 7 - 10 P.M. WITH D.J JON WILLIAMS AND THEN HIGH ENERGY DANCE MUSIC WITH D.J PATTY PARDUE

SATURDAY -- COUNTRY MUSIC DANCING 7 - 10 P.M. HOT DANCE MUSIC "RAVE" WITH D.J PATTY PARDUE.

SUNDAY -- TEA DANCE 3 - 8 P.M. WITH D.J. JON WILLIAMS -- FREE BAR-B-Q AT 5 P.M.

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## Murphy Brown
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**September 21**
Party starts 8 p.m.
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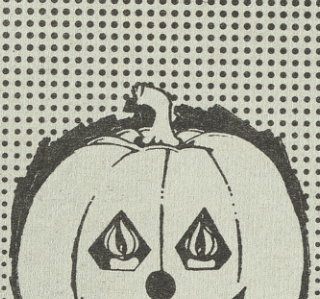

*October 31!*
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*So Put Faces Halloween Party on Your Calendar NOW! Don't Miss IT.*

# Faces - 2000 K Street
## Where There's Always Something Happening

# AROUND TOWN

## Domestic Partners Going to City Council

Mayor Anne Rudin is leaving office in November and hopes to leave behind protections for domestic partners, gay and non-gay.

by **Mike Kelly**

Mayor Anne Rudin, along with the Family Diversity Task Force has come to an agreement on the wording of the upcoming Sacramento domestic partners ordinance that is scheduled for a vote by the city council early October.

The proposed ordinance would recognize two people as domestic partners if they are both 18 years of age or older, unmarried, reside together, share living expenses and will declare in writing that they are each other's domestic ner.

The domestic partners declaration could be registered with the city clerk for a $10 fee or notarized and stored privately. The earliest couples could register would be 30 days after the ordinance passes the council.

The benefits of the ordinance -- if passed -- will be limited to city employees and citizens living or working in the city of Sacramento. The benefits for domestic partners are few, with the primary benefit being hospital and jail visitation and unpaid family leave (for death or illness).

According to Family Diversity Task Force co-chair Michael Boyd, "Some of the benefits of the ordinance are psychological and social. . . it recognizes all types of domestic partner relationships, including lesbian and gay relationships."

When Mayor Rudin announced her commitment to put a domestic partnership ordinance in place before she leaves office in November, the religious right and other conservative voices condemned the idea as being "anti-business and anti-family."

"We have a fact sheet that I think is very good in setting out the purpose of this -- what it will do, what it will not do," said Rudin. "I'm hoping that when they see that, they will see that it is really not a threat to the family or business."

Passage of the ordinance depends on whether there are the votes on the city council in support of the measure. According to Rudin "I'm pretty sure I have five votes, but I can't guarantee it."

"Letters and phone calls to council members is what we need," said Rudin, "It's so portant for all the council members to hear, both to increase the comfort level of those who are for it and also to persuade those who have not made up their minds."

Becca King

Thousands filled 20th Street during the Labor Day Rainbow Festival.

## Wow, What a Weekend!

by **Stacy Selmants**

As a warning to consumers, attending EVERY event of the nearly week-long spectacular euphemistically called "The Rainbow Festival" (instead of the more realistic "Party Until You Are The Last One Standing" Marathon) sponsored by Faces, should only be undertaken by the young or the very crazy.

Six nights (and several days) of non-stop dancing, cruising, laughing -- and wishing the ATM across the street was still open so you could buy that babe at the end of the bar a drink -- almost constituted a fun overdose. (The Rainbow Festival began four years ago as a three day deal. Next year, if it is extended by yet ANOTHER day, many of us over-30 diehards will have to attend in iron lungs.)

But besides the appeal of thousands of boys, boys, boys (and girls, girls, girls!) the Festival also raised nearly $16,400 for local gay and lesbian causes such as the Lambda Center and the Hope House. Cruising for charity -- ah, what a noble cause.

(For those of you who were trapped in a coal mine) the festival was held during the Labor Day week, and began on Wednesday, September 2 with a reunion party. The reunion honored the sacred memory of

*Continued on page 18*

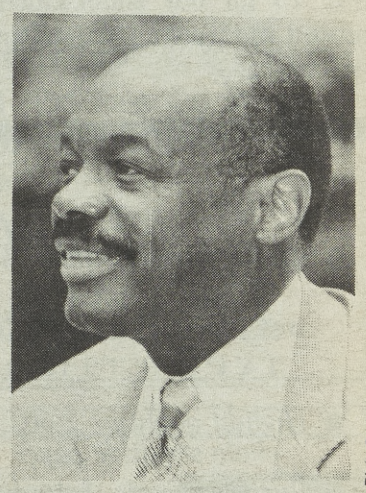
## Gay Rights Bills Await Signature or Veto

by **Stacy Selmants**

At press time, many political activists are still on call, in anticipation of Governor Pete Wilson's expected veto of Assembly Bill 2601, which would protect gays and lesbians in the workplace.

The bill, authored by Terry Friedman (D-Los Angeles) was approved by both houses and has been languishing on the Governor's desk for over two weeks. Most Capitol insiders don't expect the bill to survive.

The bill, which would codify (put into law) existing court decisions protecting gays and lesbians in the workplace, was specifically drafted to reflect Wilson's decision last year -- in the ugly wake of his veto of AB 101 -- to develop administrative remedies to employment discrimination against gays and lesbians. (Those same court protections were Wilson's rationale for vetoing last year's Assembly Bill 101, as he claimed the bill was "unnecessary" since protections against discrimination were already in place.) Exemptions were even added to exempt small businesses of less than five employees, and non-profit religious organizations from the provisions of the law.



Rick Gerharter

Assemblyman Willie Brown.

While the law was crafted to be in accordance with Wilson's

*Continued on page 6*

# really !!! I MUST SAY!

## Will He Talk the Talk and Walk the Walk?

There is no question that George Bush should not be re-elected president of the United States. Any lingering respectablity of a once moderate Republican, has been sold to the religious right, so he can retain his perceived control over his "New World Order" and his obvious goal of becoming the "One World dictator."

Gov. Bill Clinton speaks about bringing people together. He talks about creating a stronger economy. He even promises to overturn government endorsed discrimination of gays and lesbians in the military.

Being a newspaper that focuses on "gay and lesbian issues," we must question whether he will fulfill this promise of "equal opportunity" and non-discrimination, due to the fact that in his state of Arkansas, sodomy between persons of the same sex is illegal. In fact, the state that he has been in control of for 12 years does not have protections for gays and lesbians in relation to housing and employment.

According to Clinton's staff at the re-election campaign headquarters in Arkansas, "The sodomy law is not enforced," and "He has never been presented with a bill to protect the rights to employment and housing."

Good excuse. It is one excuse that we, the American public, cannot ignore. Along with a presidential candidate who is talking about our civil rights, we also need to elect more people who believe in the same ideas AND are willing to put it on paper and get it to the President's desk. People like Barbara Boxer and Patrica Malberg, who are candidates the Nov. 3 election.

It is up to us to put Clinton in office and it is also up to us to give him the opportunity to not only talk the talk but to also walk the walk.

Register to vote before Oct. 3 and look to this paper Oct. 15 for our endorsements on candidates who will protect our civil rights and improve the quality of life in this country.

## Giving Up on the Republican Party

**Editor,**

In this crucial election year, I am compelled to offer a few comments about my life and about the presidential election.

I have been a professional Republican most of my adult life, beginning as chair of the Sacramento County Teenage Republicans in 1960, to serving in the Deukmejian Administration as Director of the California Arts Council.

I had the opportunity during those years to see the arts as a career. More importantly for me, I saw that gay people were living and working openly in the arts. During the last year in my position at the Arts Council, I accepted my sexual orientation as a gay man.

Because of that, my wife and I separated and divorced after sixteen years of marriage. She is now, as always, my best friend and supporter. It's a shame the Republican party is not. I know my sexual orientation is not welcome in the Republican party of George Bush, Dan Quayle, Pat Robertson or Pat Buchanan.

The Republican party no longer addresses the issues I care about. As we saw in Houston, issues of a women's right to choose; care for our global environment; a national campaign to fight AIDS; national health care; public funding for the arts; freedom of expression and gay rights were not part of the 1992 GOP platform. I can see no reason whatsoever for a gay person to be a Republican or to vote for George Bush in November.

After a lifetime as a member of the Republican party, I have become a Democrat. I urge my colleagues in the arts to do something for their country. I urge you all to vote for Bill Clinton and Al Gore in November: For the arts, for civil and human rights and for our future.

**Best regards,**
**Robert H. Reid**

## If Bush Wins, They're Moving

**Editor,**

The 1996 Summer Olympics, to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, should be boycotted by gays and lesbians and all people who believe in human rights.

The homophobic International Olympic Committee convinced the equally homophobic courts to rule that gay athletes can not use the word

*Continued on page 12*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GAY AND LESBIAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

Taking a community size step

# Local Events for National Coming Out Day

by **Steve Bistransky**

On Oct. 11, thousands of people from all walks of life will take their next step in "coming out of the closet," by participating in National Coming Out Day.

National Coming Out Day (NCOD) commemorates the 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay rights that brought more than half a million people to the nation's capitol.

The day is about "telling the truth about who you are," said Lily Andrews, local NCOD board member, "It is a day to take your own 'next step' in the coming out process."

Besides the personal steps one may take to come out as a gay man or lesbian, some local organizations have scheduled events to draw attention to the gay holiday.

On Oct. 8, Delta Lambda Phi and the Gay and Lesbian Alliance of Sacramento have organized the first ever Sacramento Gay and Lesbian Film Festival. A benefit for the Lambda Community Fund and the Center for AIDS Research, Education and Services, the event will be held at the Crest Theater, 1013 K Street, at 8 p.m.

In Davis, the lesbian and gay community has organized a "Gay Awareness Week" Oct. 5 - 11 to recognize NCOD. The week will include a "Gay Day on UC Davis Campus" and a "National Coming Out Day Dance Party," Friday, Oct. 9 at the Blue Mango Restaurant at 330 G Street, in Davis.

On National Coming Out Day, Sunday, Oct. 11, the River City Democratic Club will hold its annual awards dinner. The featured Speaker is Dave Pallone, author of "Behind the Mask, My Double Life in Baseball." Pallone's book chronicles his own coming out story while working as an umpire in major league baseball. Another featured speaker of the evening is San Francisco Supervisor Carol Migden. Tickets for the event are $45 per person and are available by calling Mark Hoffman at 361-2051.

Some ways of coming out include talking with family members to let them know who you really are; coming out by approaching a friend or colleague with the truth, or by taking a social or political step forward by joining a lesbian/gay organization. "Telling the truth about yourself is a fundamental step in creating closer relationships with family and friends," said Andrews.

Another good way to become more "out" is to write to your elected representatives to make sure they know that they represent lesbian/gay constituents.

"Coming out is a process, not a single event," according to a pamphlet from the NCOD headquarters in New Mexico. "No matter where you live, or what part of the process you are in, you can always find a way to tell the truth about your life."

For more information about National Coming Out Day, write NCOD, P.O. Box 8270, Santa Fe, NM 87504 or phone (505) 988-2558.

Also, check the Daily Plan-it on page 14 for more details about local NCOD events.


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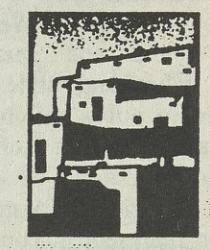
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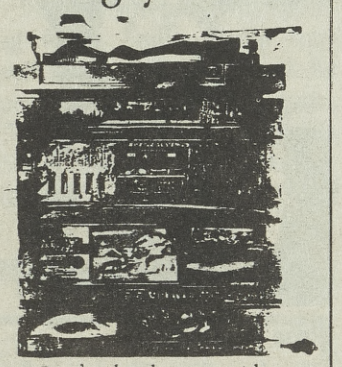
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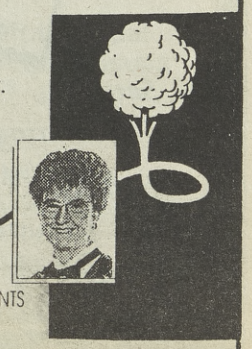


# Candidates Turn Out for Gay Democratic Club

by **Karl Greene**

More than a dozen candidates for everything from the United States Congress to local school boards showed up last month to seek the River City Democratic Club's endorsement in the November election.

The hit of the meeting was Patti Garamendi who is running for congress. Wearing bright colors and speaking with a whiz-bang style, she promised to put a halt to the conservative takeover of the Stockton area.

The district Garamendi wants to represent in congress covers Stockton and runs through Lodi, Galt and the southern part of Sacramento. She told River City Democratic Club (RCDC) members that Stockton's gay community has already been working in her campaign.

The Sacramento city council race for district 8, between Michael Renya and Sam Pannell, also drew a lot of attention at the meeting.

Reyna, making his second appearance before RCDC, reminded the group that he has been a reliable friend of the gay community in his job in the state assembly. Pannell, reported to be at a campaign appearance, was represented by a spokesperson who insisted that Pannell's ties with fundamentalist ministers presents no problem for the gay community. "Sam sees your issues as civil rights issues, not as religious issues," he said.

Two races for the Los Rios Community College District board of trustees was also a focal point of the meeting.

**Rosa de Anda.**

The Los Rios District includes Sacramento City College, American River College, and Cosumnes River College.

Running for one of the College board seats is Alan Clarke, incumbent, and Ann Blackwood, a young woman who said she represents students.

Clarke specifically addressed several "gay issues" saying he would talk with employee unions about placing domestic partnership arrangements in labor contracts. He also said he would investigate the police science and fire science classes to determine if those studies could tackle the issue of anti-gay attitudes among public safety workers.

Blackwood told the group she is committed to better AIDS education and health services on campuses but did not indicated how she would pay for those services. She said she is disturbed that existing board of trustees is a "rubber stamp board."

The other Los Rios race which got a lot of attention was the contest between Berman Obaldia, Rosa de Anda and Ann Davenport. Obaldia displayed tremendous enthusiasm, de Anda showed she has a grasp of the issues, and Davenport discussed her commitment to civil rights.

Gary Miller, one of two openly gay candidates who appeared before the meeting,

*Continued on page 10*

## BILLS

*continued from page 3*

own directives to the state's Fair Housing and Employment agency, a veto is still very likely, according to the bill's proponents. When AB 2601 was in danger of being killed (at Wilson's request) in its final committee, the LIFE Lobby's Laurie McBride vowed her determination to force Wilson to address the issue.

"I want to get as many of these gay rights bills to Wilson's desk as I can, and then see if he vetoes them all," she said.

In anticipation of a veto, McBride and other activists have -- waiting in the wings -- a series of statewide press conferences, with identical press packages and prepared statements, to flood the state's media outlets with an identical message of outrage. A veto would only provide more ammunition to the "Dump Wilson" movement that exists among the state's voters.

Wilson has until the end of the month to sign, veto or allow AB 2601 to become law without his signature.

There are a slew of other gay-oriented bills which also successfully passed through the legislative process and are awaiting his signature or veto. Most of them also passed in the closing days of the session, and should be acted upon within the next two weeks. Gay rights bills awaiting action by the Governor include:

* **AB 3825 (Brown)** -- An omnibus civil rights bill which had the language stripped in the Senate Appropriations Committee that specifically gives protections to gays. The gay rights language was cut in response to Senator Ruben Ayala's (D-Chino) adamant refusal to vote for the bill.

Ayala, a Latin man, was quoted as saying " I'm all for civil rights. I'm proud of my heritage. But I resent the fact that I am associated with homosexuals in the bill."

However, due to the deletions, the bill passed out of the committee, and was sent to the Senate floor, where it was amended again and the gay rights language was reinserted.

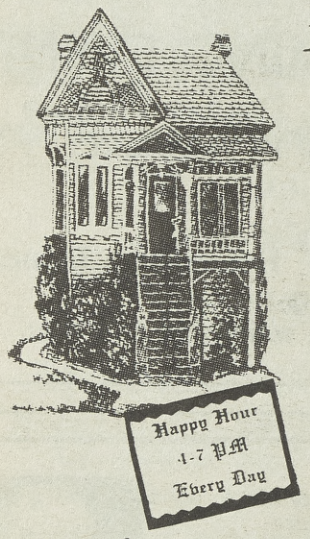
Due to the gay rights provisions, and since Wilson has a longstanding personal turf war with the author (Assembly Speaker Willie Brown) it is also viewed as veto bait.

* **AB 401 (Epple)** -- Would expand the existing State Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training from 11 to 13 members, and would develop guidelines and basic training that includes instruction on racial and cultural diversity that specifically includes gender and sexual orientation issues.
* **AB 3407 (Klehs)** -- Would require that the State Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training develop curriculum and standards on responding to and handling hate crimes.
* **AB 2169 (Gotch)** -- Would order that the Office of the State Insurance Commissioner undertake a study concerning the health care coverage of people with HIV related conditions by July 1994. This study would specifically address the problems of obtaining and maintaining insurance coverage for people testing positive for HIV, with HIV illnesses and with AIDS.
* **AB 1286 (Vasconcellos and Friedman)** -- Among other provisions, relating to physical disabilities, the bill would authorize a city, county or district attorney's office to act on behalf of a person suffering from discrimination, due to HIV, in housing or employment. This bill would allow the above entities to bring civil charges against the person, employer, labor organization, or employment agency accused of the discriminatory practices.
* **AB 311 (Moore)** -- Would expand existing avenues that the State Department of Fair Employment and Housing has to enforce fair housing and employment statutes. Additionally, it would also authorize local agencies to file civil discrimination claims on behalf of persons with HIV.

## DEADLINES

The editorial deadline for our next issue is October 1st. Camera-ready advertising materials are due by October 5th.


The Mercantile House

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*Sunday, October 4, Live Entertainment featuring Whalen Black, 6 p.m.*

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# NEWSBITS-NEWSBITS-NEWSBITS-NEWSBITS

## Delay over Gays in School Books

Members of the State Board of Education have again delayed adoption of a new Health Education Framework for California's schools due to controversy over three references to lesbian, gay and bisexual people.

The Framework calls for an approach to education that includes all students and specifically lists a number of categories ranging from ethnic background to sexual orientation.

Board members who oppose the new Framework complain that it would promote homosexuality rather than teach honor for heterosexual marriage, and would promote a new definition of the family.

The board will vote on the Framework at its next meeting Oct. 8 and 9 in Sacramento.

## March on Sacramento

March on Sacramento 1992 is planned for noon Oct. 11 at the west steps of the State Capitol. The rally and short march will focus on Governor Wilson's veto of gay rights legislation in a year which has seen a 31% increase in gay bashings.

The march planning committee is looking for people interested in organizing local communities to attend the event and for volunteers to work the day of the event. For further information or to volunteer call Everett at 415/431-7511.

## Charity Rummage Sale by Realtors

The Rainbow Real Estate Professionals are having a rummage sale to benefit local AIDS charities on Oct. 3, at the corner of O and 19th Streets, in Sacramento.

Donations of sellable items for the rummage sale are needed. All items donated, if not sold, will be given to charity.

For more information or to donate items contact Jake Steuble at 484-6630.

## Square Dancing a Goldmine

Capital City Squares, the oldest lesbian and gay square dance club on the West Coast, is seeking new members for its upcoming season.

Capital City Squares is a charter member to the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs and an active participant in the Association's annual conventions.

The Club offers monthly dances, potlucks, and an annual three-day retreat, in addition to weekly instruction, all amidst a warm, friendly and supportive atmosphere.

Membership in the Capital City Squares is open to any adult interested in square dancing. The Club encourages anyone who has ever thought about this sport to join them at an introductory dance on Sept. 26 at the Central United Methodist Church, 53rd and H Streets, in Sacramento.

Square dancing is fun, exciting and not just for your grandmother anymore. For more information contact George Fox at 929-8697.

## RCDC Dinner on Coming Out Day

The River City Democratic Club will hold their annual awards dinner on Sunday night, Oct. 11, in the Grand Ballroom at the Radisson Hotel. This year's event will take place on National Coming Out Day. The them will be "Feeling Good Together."

The featured speaker will be Dave Pallone, author of "Behind the Mask. . .My Double Life in Baseball." Pallone's book, which chronicles his own coming out story while working as an umpire in major league baseball, was a national best seller.

The program will also include a salute to the late Stan Hadden, photographs of the NAMES Project Quilt direct from Washington D.C., and presentations of awards honoring members of the community.

Tickets to the event are $45 and can be reserved by calling dinner chairman Mark Hoffman at 361-2051, or RCDC co-chair Michael Boyd at 448-2383.

## Holiday Crafts Fair Calls Artists

The Lambda Fund/SLCC Holiday Crafts Faire is seeking artists and crafts people for their upcoming Holiday Crafts Faire on Dec. 5. The Crafts Faire will take place from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the YWCA building, and will offer the sale of quality handmade crafts from the gay and lesbian community as well as the non-gay community.

Persons interested in applying for a booth rental may request an application form by contacting the Lambda Center, 1931 L Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, Attention Laura Enright.

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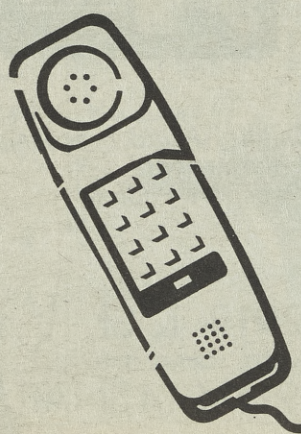

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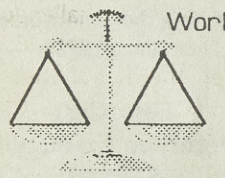

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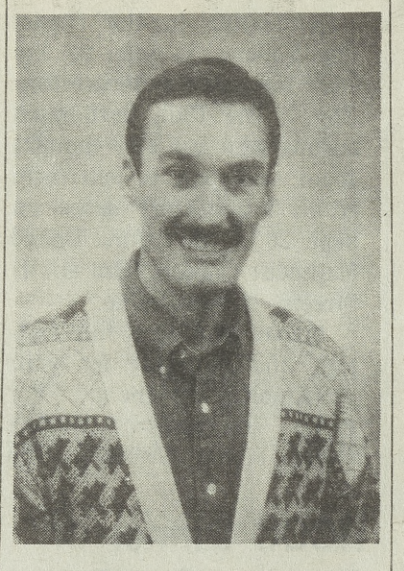
# VITALS



### Dale Morgan Lafferty

Died at home in Elk Grove August 21, at age 36, surrounded by his family and many friends.

Dale grew up in Lemoore, CA where he graduated with honors form Lemoore High School in 1974. He graduated nursing from Fresno State in 1979, and after briefly working at Fresno Hospital; moved to Sacramento and settled in Elk Grove in 1980.

Dale worked for Mercy General Hospital for 12 years and was the administrative nurse for surgical intensive care.

Dale was a truly compassionate and dedicated nurse who always had a clear vision of what was in the best interests of his patients. He was always willing to stand firm on his convictions.

Dale had a beautiful garden and koi pond, which was his joy and his meditation, and was an exquisite example of his keen esthetic sense and perfectionism.

He was ever the teacher, and to the end he shared his knowledge and understanding with all who knew him.

Dale was aware of being HIV+ for 10 years, and finally succumbed to the ravages of AIDS.

Dale will be sorely missed by his parents Arlene and John, his older brothers David and Danny, and grandmother Harriet Feeley; his lifelong best friend Cathy Frazier, his nurturing housemates Vera, Tracy and Teri and neighbor Nina, as will as many other dear friends; and lastly his dogs, Bud and Gina.

Donations in his honor would be appreciated by the CARES Clinic.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### Mark Steven Bagget
(11/20/52 - 7/30/92)
### Ruben Miguel Gonzalez
(8/23/53 - 8/16/92)

Mike Gonzalez and Mark Bagget had been partners and soulmates for well over a dozen years. Mark left this world on July 30 at the age of 39, to ready a place in heaven for Mike, 38, who peacefully followed him two weeks later from their home in Rancho Cordova.

They had lived and worked together in Los Angeles. Both died of AIDS complications and were cremated.

Mark is survived by parents Bob and Billie, sisters Susie, Jan and Joy, and nephews Eric, Robby and Donnie.

Mike is survived by father Ruben, brothers John, Mark, and Greg, sisters Mary and Cindy and numerous nephews and nieces.

Mark built several careers for himself, in local politics, as a campaign director and office manager for Assemblyman Norm Waters; and in business, as nursery supervisor, plant sales entrepreneur, corporate auditor, and executive manager in a food distribution company.

He also produced and managed music concerts at the Fox Theater for the Performing Arts, which became a historical landmark largely due to his efforts.

Mark was a creative floral artist and gourmet cook at home but is especially remembered for his caring spirit. On numerous occasions he would take needy strangers into his home until he and Mike found help for them.

Mike's vocation in life centered around the theater, dance and singing. His talents started to flourish when, at age 15, he became the protege of vocal coach LaLa Rotine of Tuolome. She provided Mike's funeral service with a stirring tape of him singing "Amazing Grace" and "Jerusalem." "As a true star," Rev. Dunlap reminded Mike, "you have to follow your own path, shine your own light, and don't worry about the darkness, for that's when stars shine their brightest."

Like his lifelong partner, Mike was compassionate and "always on the give." He maintained a strong faith and had a very deep spiritual nature.

The two men are sadly missed, fondly remembered and warmly loved by their families and by their oldest friend, Mike Kelly.

**Please send all info for VITALS to the latest ISSUE, P.O. Box 160584, Sacramento, CA 95816 and please include a phone number.**

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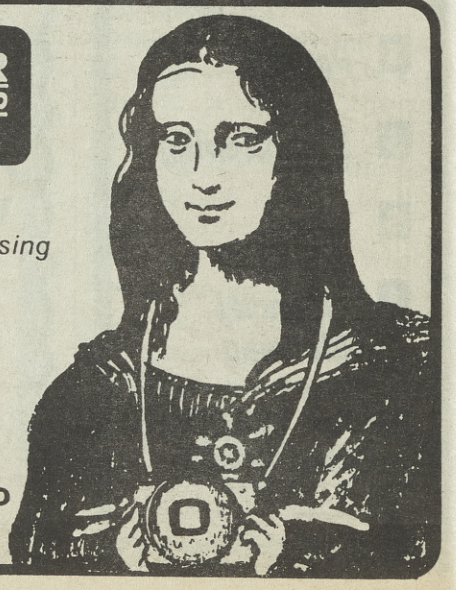

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getting

# OUTTA TOWN

## GOP Targets Gays - Gays Fight Back

**The Republican National Convention in Houston, Texas, held in August, featured high gay/lesbian and AIDS visibility on the outside of the Astrodome -- but equally visible anti-gay onslaught by GOP officials on the inside.**

Patrick Buchanan set the tone Aug. 17, when he gay-baited the Clinton/Gore candidacy, calling it the most "pro-lesbian and pro-gay ticket in history." He then went on to say, "We stand with (President Bush) against the amoral idea that gay and lesbian couples should have the same standing in law as married men and women."

The Republican platform was equally intolerant. Among other anti-gay statements, the platform asserts, "We oppose efforts by the Democratic Party to include sexual preference as a protected minority receiving preferential status under civil rights statutes at the federal, state and local level."

"By attacking gay men and lesbians," said National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) Public Information Director Robert Bray, "the Bush/Quayle campaign distracts from its poor record on the economy, the environment, education and health care. We are the new Willie Horton. We must stand up to this hateful rhetoric, must organize locally and must come out voting as if our lives depended on it."

Rink Foto

**Urvashi Vaid, NGLTG executive director.**

Outside the convention lesbian/gay and AIDS activists made their dissatisfaction with the current administration known by staging daily demonstrations.

On Aug. 17, a peaceful but aggressive AIDS march ended in violence as riot police on horseback and on foot charged and beat some 2,000 protesters outside the Astrodome gates.

"I ran for my life across a field, and barely escaped being hit," said Urvashi Vaid, NGLTF executive director. "I personally saw more than 10 people being hit. It was a completely unjustified use of force."

> "We must stand up to this hateful rhetoric, must organize locally and must come out voting as if our lives depended on it."

Hundreds of police officers in full riot gear, without advance warning, attacked and beat gay men, lesbian and people with AIDS who were demonstrating at the Republican Convention. At least three people were hospitalized, dozens injured and six arrested in the melee.

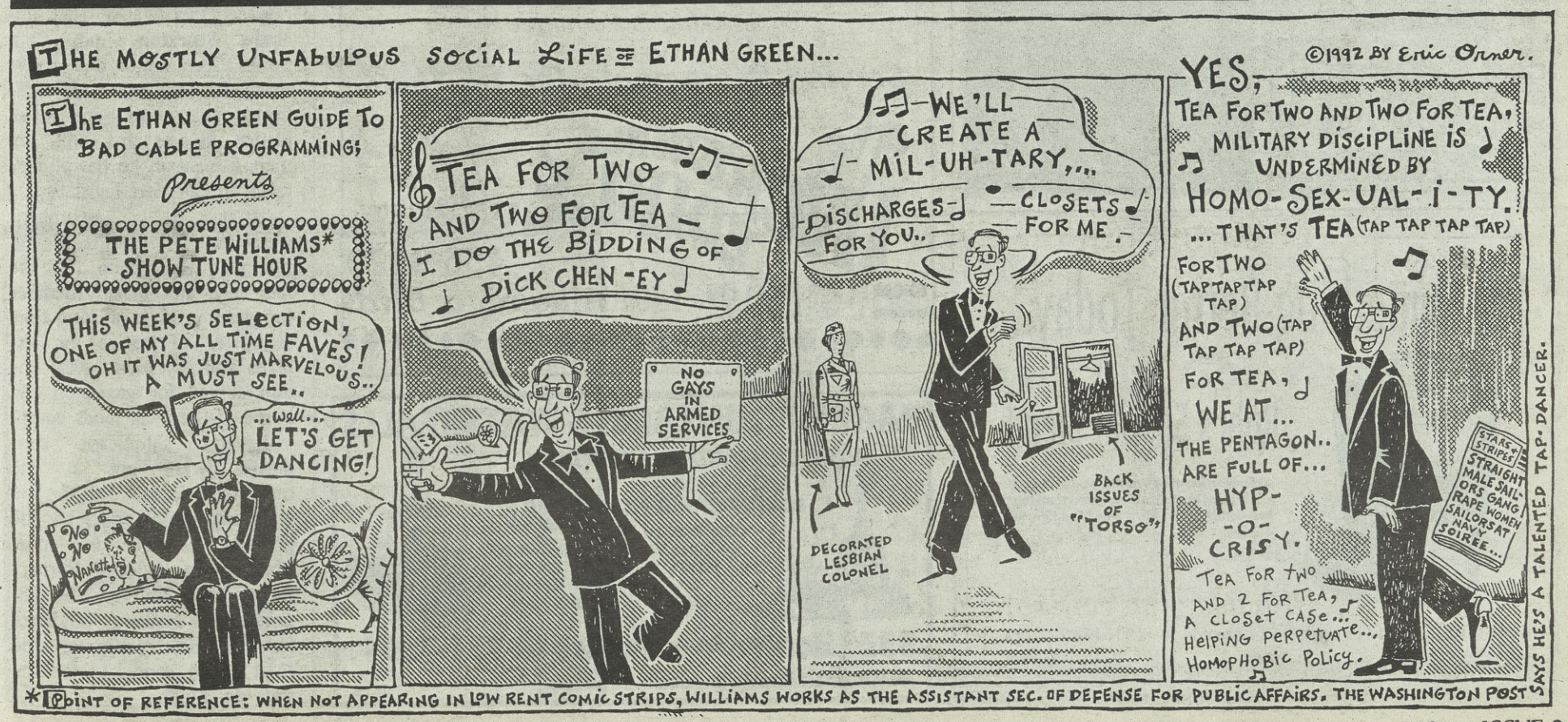
Houston activists, with city council allies, have filed formal complaints and a call for an investigation against the police.

Other demonstrations at the Convention included a "United for Justice" rally and march on Aug. 16, a press conference on "Gay Issues and the GOP Campaign," and a protest and civil disobedience by Queer Nation/Houston and NGLTF targeting Jerry Falwell, Patrick Buchanan and the Christian Action Network.

The protest challenged the evangelical far rights domination of the Republican Party and its anti-gay rhetoric. Activists demonstrated outside the Christian Network's meeting site, while several infiltrated the meeting and disrupted Falwell's speech inside. Seven protestors were arrested.

### DEADLINES

The editorial deadline for our next issue is October 1st. Camera-ready advertising materials are due by October 5th.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AND TWO (TAP TAP TAP TAP)
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STARS+STRIPES
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*POINT OF REFERENCE: WHEN NOT APPEARING IN LOW RENT COMIC STRIPS, WILLIAMS WORKS AS THE ASSISTANT SEC. OF DEFENSE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS. THE WASHINGTON POST

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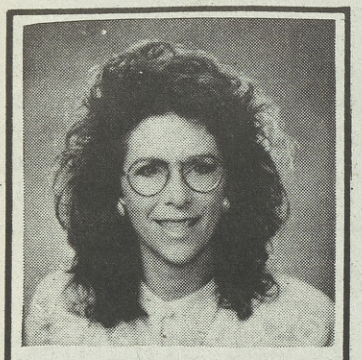

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# Cigarettes Targeting Community

by **Mike Kelly**

The Philip Morris Tobacco Company is marketing its new line of cigarettes in the gay press, and some lesbian and gay rights health activists are outraged.

"Special Kings," a new shorter, king-size "pocket pack" version of its Benson and Hedges brand is being advertised in Genre magazine, a fashion and lifestyle publication for gay men.

A spokeswoman for Philip Morris' media relations told the latest ISSUE that as their most recent product "is designed for smokers 21-34, male and female -- Genre happens to reach part of the market we're looking for." She added that since this premium brand is geared toward young affluent smokers, not just gays, advertising is also done in other mainstream magazines, including GQ, Playboy, People, Esquire, Harpers, Cosmopolitan and Fortune.

In a recent Wall Street Journal article, suggestions were made that Philip Morris' choice to advertise in a gay publication "might hurt" their image, she affirmed that there had been no negative responses from any public sector to date.

However, lesbian and gay health activists are denouncing this new marketing plan. "This is a community already ravaged by addiction," said Hal Offen, president of the Coalition of Lavender Americans on Smoking and Health (CLASH), "We don't need the Marlboro man to help pull the trigger."

Salud Garcia, a representative of the Sacramento's Regional Tobacco Prevention Center believes that "this is becoming standard practice for the tobacco companies, pick a community that suffers from stress and health problems and market a particular cigarette to that community."

> "We don't need the Marlboro man to help pull the trigger."

She highlighted some statistics from the Center for AIDS Research and Education Services (CARES), "that persons diagnosed with HIV have a 5-6 year life expectancy if they smoke, and a 11-12 year life expectancy if they don't." "This new marketing plan," Garcia noted, "is especially insidious given the fact that most smokers never switch brands. In other words, these marketing efforts will be most effective with lesbian and gay youth. We know that the vast majority of smokers start in their teens; we've only heard of a few people who took up smoking in their twenties."

Benson and Hedges is the second most popular brand among gay men, according to Overlooked Opinions, Inc., a Chicago consulting firm specializing in gay and lesbian markets. Homosexual adults have a slightly higher smoking rate (27%) than the national average, according to the Center for Disease Control.

## DEADLINES

The editorial deadline for our next issue is October 1st. Camera-ready advertising materials are due by October 5th.

## CAMPAIGN

*continued from page 6*

is running for re-election to the Robla School Board. Robla is an elementary school district in the North Sacramento area. Miller is currently president of that board. He cited a list of specific accomplishments directly related to gay issues.

The other openly gay candidate at the meeting was Sam Ciraulo who is running for a seat on the troubled Grant Joint Union High School District board. He did not directly address gay issues, but cited his experience in fiscal and management affairs as important of the Grant board.

Sen. Pat Johnston, incumbent candidate for the state senate showed up to seek RCDC's endorsement. He too, represents an area that includes Stockton, Lodi, Galt, South Sacramento and everything in between. He reaffirmed his commitment to full justice for lesbians and gay men, a position he has already taken in the state legislature.

Peter Keat, incumbent candidate for SMUD board, reminded the group that he has been and RCDC member for years and is a long-time supporter of justice for lesbians and gay men. Keat has also served for years on the board of the local foods co-op.

Several significant candidates were not at the meeting because RCDC had endorsed them prior to the primary election in June. That group included Barbara Boxer, candidate for the U.S. senate; Pat Malberg, candidate for the U.S. congress; and Joan Barry, candidate for the state assembly.

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# the latest NEWS BITS

## Oregon is an Embarrassment

Governor Barbara Roberts of Oregon warned that the state's economy could be hurt and its image tarnished across the nation by an anti-gay rights measure on the November ballot.

Roberts said many businesses and tourists would shun Oregon if voters approved Measure 9, a proposal sponsored by the Oregon Citizen's Alliance (OCA), to label homosexuality as abnormal.

"This ballot measure betrays Oregonians," Gov. Roberts said, "It brings out the worst in us. It is a cancer in Oregon's soul."

According to OCA chairman Lon Mabon, "Bad for businesses? Porno shops and gay bars? Most businesses thrive when families thrive, and Measure 9 will help create a climate in which families can thrive."

Gov. Roberts cited the losses suffered by Arizona after that state rescinded its holiday honoring Martin Luther King Jr. "To date, Arizona has lost 166 conventions, 164,695 convention attendees, almost $100 million in convention business and a Super Bowl worth $200 million."

## Threats of Outing Republicans

In an election battle where 'family values' have become the ammunition of choice, two gay magazines are considering exposing some key Republican officials as gay.

Prompted by what they say is ugly gay bashing by Republicans The Advocate and QW have in the last few weeks named three Republicans as gay: a conservative Southern congressman, a longtime speech writer and the son of a conservative activist.

QW editor Maer Roshan said the magazine is sitting on "eight or nine names" of the officials they believe are gay, all of whom are in "policy making areas."

In an editorial in QW's Sept. 6 issue, the magazine states: "We too, like a certain senator who tyrannized Americans almost 40 years ago, have a list. . .If we are driven by this war to go public, to name names, we will."

**Newsday**

## Hands Around The White House

The AIDS activist group ACT UP/D.C. says it needs about 4,000 people to join "Hands Around the White House," Monday, Oct. 12, in a demonstration to coincide with the display of the entire NAMES Project Memorial Quilt.

The demonstration begins at noon, with the ringing of bells, whistles, and other noise-makers as "a wake-up call" to President George Bush. Organizers are estimating that 4,000 participants are needed to encircle the White House with joined hands.

For more information about the NAMES Project display, call (202) 29-NAMES. For more information on the ACT UP/D.C. demonstration, call (202) 328-AIDS.

**Washington Blade**

## Partner Benefits in Canada

The Ontario, Canada government was ordered to extend survivor benefits to the partners of gay and lesbian government employees.

The decision was made by an independent board of inquiry appointed under the Ontario Human Rights Code and was immediately heralded by gay rights activists.

**Sacramento Bee**

## Quayle Isn't against Gays

Vice President Dan Quayle told a campaign rally in Kansas City. Mo., that the "family values" message that he and President Bush have been espousing is not intended to increase prejudice against gays, feminists and welfare recipients, according to the *New York Times*.

"I especially reject the notion that discussing this issue is intended to divide Americans from one another, or to imply that some families are superior to others," the *Times* quoted Quayle saying.

Political commentators have speculated that the use of the family values message at last month's Republican Convention has been perceived negatively by many voters as harsh and intolerant. Quayle's speech may have been intended to quell concerns raised by moderate Republicans and critics of the Republican Party's fundamentalist Christian wing.

## Saliva HIV Test O.K. in Mexico

Mexico has approved the commercial use of an Oregon made test for the HIV virus that uses saliva instead of blood.

The Portland-based Epitope, Inc., said Health Minister Jesus Kamate approved the procedure after extensive testing of 1,880 subjects showed the same results as the usual blood test.

Tests continue in the United States on the process.

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# LETTERS

*continued from page 4*

"Olympics." But, people who race rats and cockroaches can still call their games the "Olympics." Thus, the I.O.C and the courts have ruled that gays and lesbians are lower than rats and cockroaches.

The Reagan-Bush, Fundamentalist Christian and Catholic controlled U.S Supreme Court upheld the rights of the Georgia State Gestapo to invade the bedrooms of gays and lesbians and arrest innocent people for the "crime" of loving other people.

Bush and Quayle are using this same insane homophobia to win re-election, just like they used racism (Willie Horton) to win in 1988. To further demonstrate Bush's Hitleristic nationalism and racism, he screamed like a stuck pig when the Supreme Court ruled the Americans have a constitutional right to burn the flag, but he said nothing when the court ruled that the K.K.K. can burn crosses on the property of innocent black families, and has overturned at least five civil rights laws.

The Republican's homophobic "family values" issue was used by Hitler to murder thousands of gays, which eventually led to the attempted annihilation of a whole race of people. Hitler also used an outbreak of syphilis in some Jewish ghettos to persecute Jews, just like the Republicans are using AIDS to persecute not only gays and lesbians, but blacks and Hispanics.

If Bush and Quayle are re-elected in November, my life-partner and I (married 22 years) will seek political asylum in Canada. We won't wait, like the German gays 60 years ago, to be herded off in cattle cars to Auschwitz and Dachau!

**John D. and Sonny C. Helm**

## Help Needed in Missouri

**Editor,**

On July 20, 1992, the Columbia, Missouri City council voted to extend equal civil rights protection to Gays and Lesbians. This historic action established Columbia as the first city of Missouri to pass such a law.

Fundamentalist opponents have wasted no time claiming to gather signatures to force an initiative that, if passed, would amend the city's charter by repealing the legislation and prohibit any future legislative attempts at human rights legislation that includes lesbians and gays.

Columbia's activist gay and lesbian community is small and stretched to its limits. Financial support is needed in beating back the repeal referendum. Please make your check payable to Lambda Anti-Repeal Campaign Committee, P.O.Box 861, Columbia, Missouri 65205-0861. Do it today.

**Sincerely yours,**
**Keith Douglas**

## ATM Worked Out O.K?

**This letter was sent to: Rick Dannelley, Vice President and District Manager of First Interstate Bank of California**

**Dear Mr. Dannelley:**

Your motto "we go the extra mile for you" is certainly accurate.

I was pleased to learn that you have decided to relocate the ATM at your midtown branch to K Street so that your customers and my constituents can continue to enjoy the freedom and convenience of a ATM.

Thank you for your serious consideration of my request to move the ATM.

**Sincerely,**
**Phillip Isenberg**
**Assemblyman 10th District**

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# HIV POSITIVE

## DDI More Effective than AZT

by **Arturo Jackson III**

Researchers reported that ddI (didanosine) was found to be a more effective antiviral than AZT (zidovudine) among HIV-positive study volunteers who were asymptomatic or diagnosed with AIDS-related complex (ARC).

A total of 913 study participants, including 270 individuals diagnosed with AIDS, were monitored by researchers at 44 medical centers across the county.

The objective of the study was to determine the effectiveness upon changing the antiviral treatment from AZT (600 mg.) to either a low (500 mg.) or high (750 mg.) dose of ddI among people at various points on the HIV disease spectrum who had previously tolerated AZT for at least 16 weeks.

The results of the multi-site trial was published in the Aug. 27 issue of *The New England Journal of Medicine.*

The 913 study participants were randomly subgrouped, with 311 given the higher dose of ddI, 298 given the lower dose, and 304 who continued taking AZT.

Researchers reported that 41% of the participants who continued taking AZT manifested new AIDS-related complications or died, compared to 32% among those taking the lower dose of ddI during the 18 month study period.

Researchers stated that those in the low dose ddI group also demonstrated the greatest antiviral benefit and experienced fewer opportunistic infections and other AIDS-related symptoms. "The implications of the study are that it's better for our patients who had tolerated AZT for 16 weeks to change to ddI," stated James Kahn, M.D., a UC San Francisco assistant professor of medicine and principal investigator of the study.

Participants in the study receiving the higher dose of ddI generally were reported to have fared better than those taking AZT, but not as well as those on the lower dose of ddI.

Kahn stated that more patients dropped out of the higher ddI dosage group, possibly because of an intolerance to the drug and consequently did not derive any benefits from the higher ddI dosage.

All of the study participants taking ddI showed an initial improvement in their CD4 (T-helper) cell count, indicating a positive immune system response. Researchers noted that over time, the CD4 counts among those taking ddI began to decline, but at a slower pace than those taking AZT. The drug ddI also proved less toxic to blood cells, while those taking AZT experience more instances of anemia and low white blood cell counts, common side effects associated with long-term use of the drug.

The study, known as ACTG 116B/117, was conducted between 1989 and 1991 by the federally-sponsored AIDS Clinical Trials Group and was funded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease of the National Institutes of Health.

Researchers emphasized that the study highlights the potential importance in changing from one antiviral drug to another, and the need for further research to identify the timed optimal effectiveness of these drugs, either alone or in combination. "Hopefully, it (the ddI research data) will allow for expansion of criteria for which it's now approved," said Kahn.


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# the daily PLAN-IT

# September

## 17 thursday

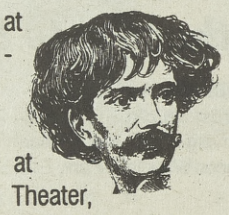
**Reno Air Races** at Stead Airport, Reno. Call 923-2277 for tickets.

**"Boys & Their Bikes"** a show at the Michael Himovitz Gallery, 1020 10th Street For details call 448-8723. **Sept. 17 - Oct.3**

## 18 friday

**SACWN** presents creator of "Out in America" pre viewing her latest work "Gay Youth." For info call 486-8985.

**Rumors** a comedy by Neil Simon at the Chatauqua Theater. For more info call 489-PLAY. **Sept. 18 - Oct. 11**



**PopeAlopes and Cake** at Library Plaza Park, 5 - 7:30 p.m. Free and open to the public.

**"Mark Twain Tonight"** at the Community Center Theater, 14th and L St. For info call 264-5181.

**"The Immigrant"** at Sacramento Theater Company. Call 443-6722 for details.

## 19 saturday

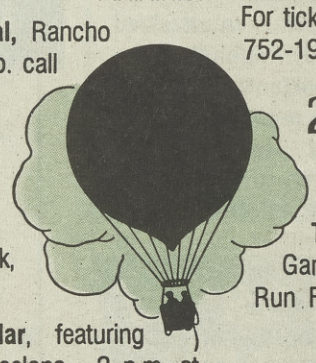
**"Caregiving: The Final Stage"** presented by Kairos - Support for Caregivers 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more info call (415) 861-0877.

**49er Western Frontier Show,** Sac Expo Center. For info call (602) 843-5303. **Sept. 19 - 20**

**Toilet Ball VI**, Joseph's Town and Country, 8 p.m. show. $8 donation to benefit Sac. AIDS Foundation & P.A.A.R.C.

**KYMX Balloon Festival,** Rancho Murieta Airport. For info. call (916) 843-5303.

## 20 sunday



**Festival of Cultures,** Sacramento Plaza Park, for info call 442-8575.

**Gymnastics Spectacular**, featuring athletes back from Barcelona. 2 p.m. at the Arco Arena. Call 923-BASS for tickets.

**"Folsom Street Fair"** San Francisco.

## 21 monday

**Sacramento Women's Chorus** first rehearsal of the 1992-93 season. All interested women encouraged to come. For info call 424-4411.

## 22 tuesday

**Los Lobos** at UC Davis' Freeborn Hall. For tickets call 752-1915.

## 23 wednesday

**The Moody Blues** Concord Pavilion

**The Warm-Up** One man Show At Garbeau's Dinner Theatre. Two Week Run For more Info. call 985-6361. **Sept. 23 - Oct. 4th**

**Hal Holbrook as "Mark Twain Tonight,"** Sacramento Community Center. For tickets call 264-5181.

## 24 thursday

**SAGA Skate Party** at the Foothill Skate Inn, 4700 Auburn Blvd. $5 includes admission & skate rental. Call 635-1535

**The Roy Brown Quintet** at the Delta King, 8 p.m. - midnight, no cover charge.

**"Blue Thursday"** an evening of music and dancing, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Tickets available by calling 452-8736.

**Vancouver Symphony Orchestra** at the Sacramento Community Center. For ticket info call 264-5181.

### MONDAYS

**Men's Coming Out Group** at the Lambda Center from 5:30 - 7 p.m. For info call 442-0185

**Affirmation:** United Methodists for lesbian & gay concerns meets the 1st Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at St. Mark's United Methodist Church. For info call 489-2340.

**Lesbian & Gay Town Council** meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. 448-0422.

**Women's Group for Survivors of Sexual Abuse** meets every other Monday from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Facilitated by Melinda Facelli, MFCC (Intern) #IMF 15850. For info and location call 783-0579.

### TUESDAYS

**Being Gay Today**, 10 p.m. on cable 18. An hour of lesbian & gay programming from around the country & beyond.

**The Other Group,** a support group for heterosexual people with HIV, every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. For info call 447-5316.

**Women HIV+ support group** at the Sacramento AIDS Foundation. 12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. For info call 448-2437.

**Sacramento Leather Association** monthly meeting at the Wreck Room at 7 p.m. First Tuesday of each month. For info call 737-0651. All are welcome!

### WEDNESDAYS

**Ladies Night** at Faces, 2000 K Street. Country Western Dance at 7:00 p.m.

Every second Wednesday of the month, **Men of All Colors**, at the Lambda Community Center. Call 442-0185 for more info.

### THURSDAYS

**Lesbian Support Group** for Partners of Incest/Molest Survivors. 1st & 3rd Thursdays from 7 - 8:30 p.m. at 1701 H Street. For info call 722-4570.

**Being Alive Living Room** HIV+ social group from 2 - 5 p.m. at the Lambda Center. Call 442-0185 for info.

### FRIDAYS

**Cafe' Lambda** gay/lesbian coffee house at the Lambda Center with select coffees, desserts and entertainment from 8 p.m. - midnight. 442-0185.

**Country Western Dance** at 7:30 p.m. Activity center of River City MCC, 34th & Broadway. For info call 454-4726.

**Women's Support Group** meets every other Friday from 2 - 4 p.m. For info call 454-0516.

### SATURDAYS

**Gay Men's/Lesbian Running Group**, all levels welcome. For more info call 387-8275 or 444-2835.

### SUNDAYS

**Gay Families,** a support group for gay men & lesbians with children and those considering parenthood, the 4th Sunday of each month. For info call 387-8862.

**River City Metropolitan Community Church**; 7 a.m. communion, 9, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. worship service. For more info call 454-4762.

**Christian Community Fellowship** meets in the community room at the Wreck Room 2 p.m. Call 731-7620

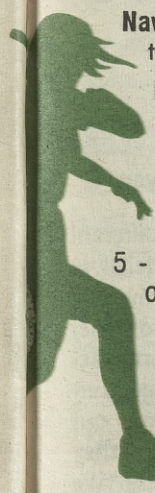
**Tea Dance at Faces** 3 - 7 p.m., barbecue at 5 p.m., country/western dancing begins at 7 p.m.

# October

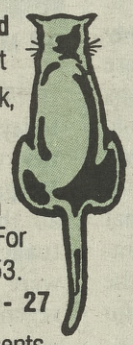
## 25 friday

**Harvest Festival** at the Sacramento Community Center. For details call (707) 778-8300. **Sept. 25-27**

**Women's Weekend** at the Russian River, for details call (800) 734-3371.



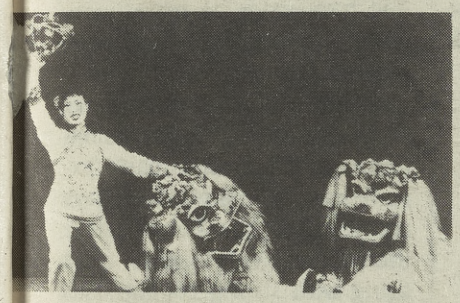
**Navratilova vs Connors** battle of the champions. 6 p.m., Pay per view cable channel 50 & 52. $24.95 923-FILM.



**Little Charlie and The Nightcats** at Library Plaza Park, 5 - 7:30p.m. Free and open to the public.

**Blues Festival,** in Old Sacramento. For more info 443-8653. **Sept. 25 - 27**

UC Davis Presents **Chinese Magic Revue.** Some of the acts



sword swallowing, human pyramids, magic and juggling. For info call 757-3199.

## 26 saturday

**Mr./ Ms. Central Valley Leather Contest** at the Red Lantern in Fresno. For more info call (209) 498-0314.

**Capital City Squares,** introduction to square dancing for the lesbian/gay community, 7 p.m. Call 929-8697 for details.

**Investitures** of New Ducal Court at Joseph's Town and Country. $3 cover. For details call 649-9248.

**County WineFest,** at the Foundry's Stone Hall in Nevada City. 265-5040.

## 28 monday

**Twin Spirit Veteran's Association**, meeting at MCC, 7:30p.m. For more info call 446-6409 or 383-0940.

## 30 wednesday

**Lesbian Youth Movie Night,** at the Lambda Community Center, for women 23 and younger. 6 - 10 p.m. 442-0185.

## 1 thursday

**Rainbow Real Estate Professionals** meeting at Andiamo, 11 a.m. For details call 484-6630.

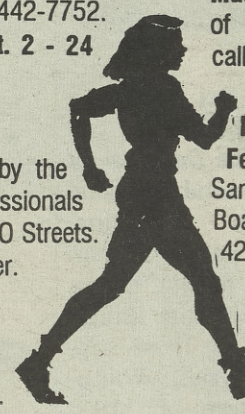
## 2 friday

**"The Heidi Chronicles,"** Sac Theater Company. Info. 443-6722. **Oct. 2 - 25**

**"Spare Parts"** performed by the Lambda Players at the YWCA, 1122 17th Street. For ticket information call 442-7752. **Oct. 2 - 24**

## 3 saturday

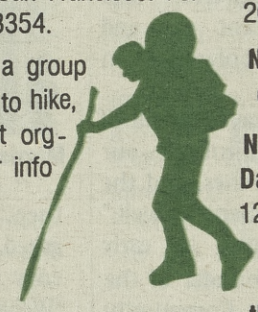
**Rummage Sale** organized by the Rainbow Real Estate Professionals at the corner of 19th and O Streets. An AIDS benefit fundraiser.



## 4 sunday

**Walk for AIDS** San Jose. (408) 451- WALK.

**Castro Street Fair** in San Francisco. For details call (415) 467-3354.



**Dykes Out Together** a group for women who like to hike, bike and play, first organizational meeting. For info call 487- 3124.

## 8 thursday

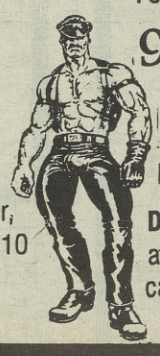
**Sacramento Lesbian and Gay Film Festival** produced by Delta Lambda Phi and GLAS, at the Crest Theater.

**The Dance Exchange** at Main Theater at UC Davis, 8 p.m. Call 752-1915 for tickets.

**SAGA Skate Party** at the Foothill Skate Inn, 4700 Auburn Blvd. $5 includes admission and skate rental. Call 635-1535

**Gay Awareness Week Rally/Festival** on the UC Davis Quad, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. call 756-7838 for details.

## 9 friday



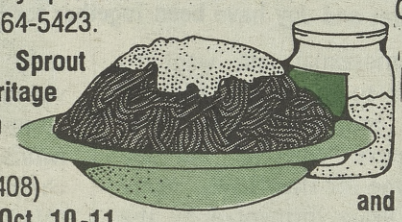
**LeatherFest 1992** produced by the Sacramento Leather Association. **Mr. Wreck Room Competition,** details 456-1181.

**Dance Party for Gay Awareness Week** at the Blue Mango in Davis. For details call 756-7838.

## 10 saturday

**Leather Arts and Crafts Fair, Beer Bust and LeatherFest Fantasy Night** at Joseph's Town and Country, Part of Sacramento Leather Asso's LeatherFest Weekend. Call 649-9248 for details.

Crocker Art Museum; **From Modello To Masterpiece:** The Art of Drawing Symposium. For information call Tish at 264-5423.



**Brussels Sprout Italian Heritage Festival** in Santa Cruz Boardwalk. (408) 423- 5590. **Oct. 10-11**

## 11 sunday

**River City Democratic Club's** annual awards dinner at the Radisson Hotel. Tickets are $45 For info call 361-2051 or 448-2383.

**National Coming Out Day**

**NCOD Picnic at Davis Central Park,** 12- 5 p.m. for info call 756-7838.

**Demonstration at the Capitol** to draw attention to current lesbian and gay issues. Call Everette for more info (415)431-7511.

**Gay Run 92** in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, 9 a.m. 5K, 10K, a 5K walk and 5K pet walk. Call (415)626-1380 for details.

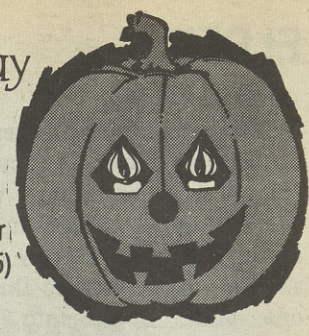
**Bus Trip to the Renaissance Pleasure Faire**, organized by Ernie Brown. For details call 447-0792

**Full Moon Contest** at the Wreck Room. The last event of LeatherFest 1992. 10 p.m.

## 12 monday

**International Fireworks Festival** in San Francisco. For info call (415) 981-1992.

## 17 saturday



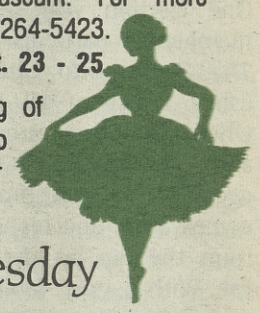
**The Pumpkin Art Festival** on Main Street in downtown Half Moon Bay. For more info call (415) 726-9652.

## 22 thursday

**SAGA Skate Party** at the Foothill Skate Inn, 4700 Auburn Blvd. $5 includes admission and skate rental. Call 635-1535 for details.

## 23 friday

**21st Annual Antique Show and Sale** at the Crocker Art Museum. For more information call (916) 264-5423. **Oct. 23 - 25**

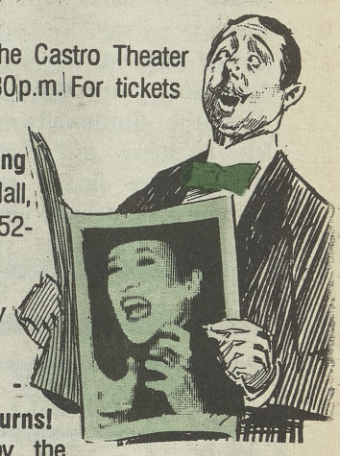


**"Giselle"** Gala Opening of the ballet, Sacramento Community Theater 736- 2860.

## 28 wednesday

**Cokie Roberts, Dr. C. Everett Koop and author Maya Angelou,** at UC Davis, 8 p.m. Call 752-1915 for details.

## 29 thursday



**"Nitrate Kisses"** at the Castro Theater in San Francisco, 7:30p.m. For tickets call (415) 552-FILM.

**The Lafayette String Quartet** at Freeborn Hall, Davis - 8 p.m. Call 752-1915 for tickets.

## 31 saturday

**Back from the Crypt - The Hellfire Ball Returns!** an event produced by the Sacramento Men's Chorus, sponsored by the latest ISSUE and Patlar. Tickets are available at the Gifted Gardener.

**SACWN's Halloween Dance** at the Unitarian Hall. 8-12p.m. An event for women, 21 and over. Call 486-8985 for details.

**Halloween**

**Lesbian Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament**, at Mills College, Oakland. A benefit for the Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services. For details and entry forms call (415) 346-2336.

# ELDERS

*continued from page 1*

lesbian bar. Then, after a number of years, the owner realized men drank more than women, and it became mixed. In time, there were two bars, although Ernie recalled that at one point Sacramento was actually home to twelve or thirteen bars.

In the pre-Stonewall days, around election time politicians would vow to "Clean Up the City." That meant proclaiming war on the three great sins: prostitution, gambling, and homosexuality. Generally, for gays this translated into police raids on the bars. One election year, Ernie remembered particularly well. *The Sacramento Union* published a list of all the bars where gambling, prostitution, and homosexual behavior occurred. At that time, Ernie owned a bar and his was third from the top on the Union's list. With a great laugh, Ernie exclaimed, "business boomed for three years from that free advertising!" Ironically, *the Union's* list helped gays and lesbians who didn't know where gay bars were to find them.

Roy Brinson, also known as Aunt Rose, remembers the day after the Stonewall riots, "I felt a sense of relief, that people were finally standing up," he said, "that's when the raids (on the bars) stopped, and I knew it was beginning to change." "Back then, the older folks would take a young person under their wing and teach em' how to act." "They taught you how to fit in, and stay out of jail," he said, "You just couldn't go screaming down the street."

Yet, while many gays and lesbians identified themselves as homosexual and went to bars or social groups, a much larger proportion just knew they were "different" but had no name for themselves. Many spent years tormented by the thought that they were the only one with these feelings. Joy and Margaret, now in their 70's and together for 35 years, were both married when they first met and fell in love. "We used to spend hours in the library searching through psychology books trying to find out more about all of this. There was so little. . .and then finally we found the 'Well of Loneliness,' by Radclyffe Hall. There it was!," Joy remembers.

Rink Foto

**Margaret and Joy have been together for 35 years.**

But even if a man or woman could "name" what they were, acknowledging that identity to themselves or the world, was frightening and often dangerous. "We were treated as illegal, immoral, and sick," recalled Del Martin, a veteran gay rights activist and co-founder of the *Daughter of Bilitis*, the ground breaking early lesbian magazine. "McCarthyism, police raids on gay bars and private parties followed by newspaper listings of the names of those captured in the raids, institutionalization, fear of blackmail. . .we learned we had to keep quiet to survive," said Martin at a recent gay and lesbian aging conference in San Francisco.

"We were betrayed by all of our social institutions--our families, our churches, and the medical establishment as well," notes Morris Kight, an early gay activist and founder of the Gay and Lesbian Community Service Center in Los Angeles, "Being gay and lesbian in a society where our families treated us like birth defects to be disinherited, where the church said we were so sinful, we were beyond salvation, where medical professionals said we were sick and required drugs, lobotomies, or institutionalization to be cured, has caused many of today's older gays and lesbians to still remain very closeted."

For most of their years together, Joy and Margaret "kept quiet." Yet, in spite of that tactic, they lost custody of their children, and were repeatedly fired from their jobs when a newer employee would make an issue of their being "different." "We went to inquire about an apartment that was for rent," Joy remembered, "and suddenly when the manager saw us, it wasn't for rent anymore."

"The young ones today have no idea at all what the world was like for us back then," Ernie noted. But, when asked, Ernie said he does not envy kids coming out today. "We've gained a great deal, but we've lost something too. . .some of the closeness and caring," reflected Ernie.

**Morris Kight.**

Rink Foto

**Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon.**

"The world is so different today!" says Joy with relief in her voice. Although Joy and Margaret have lived together all these years, they only actually acknowledged that they were lesbian and came out seven years ago, when they were in their late sixties. "We discovered a whole new world and have made so many wonderful new friends since coming out."

Some researchers have suggested that the discrimination, isolation, and pain experienced by many older gays and lesbians has helped make them "survivors" who face aging with strong coping skills and alternative support networks.

Whether older gays and lesbians living in Sacramento agree with that notion is one of the many issues this series will explore in the coming months.

*Older gays and lesbians, we want your stories, ideas and comments on aging. Please leave a message for Lora Connelly at the latest ISSUE to be a part of this educational series. (916) 448-8504.*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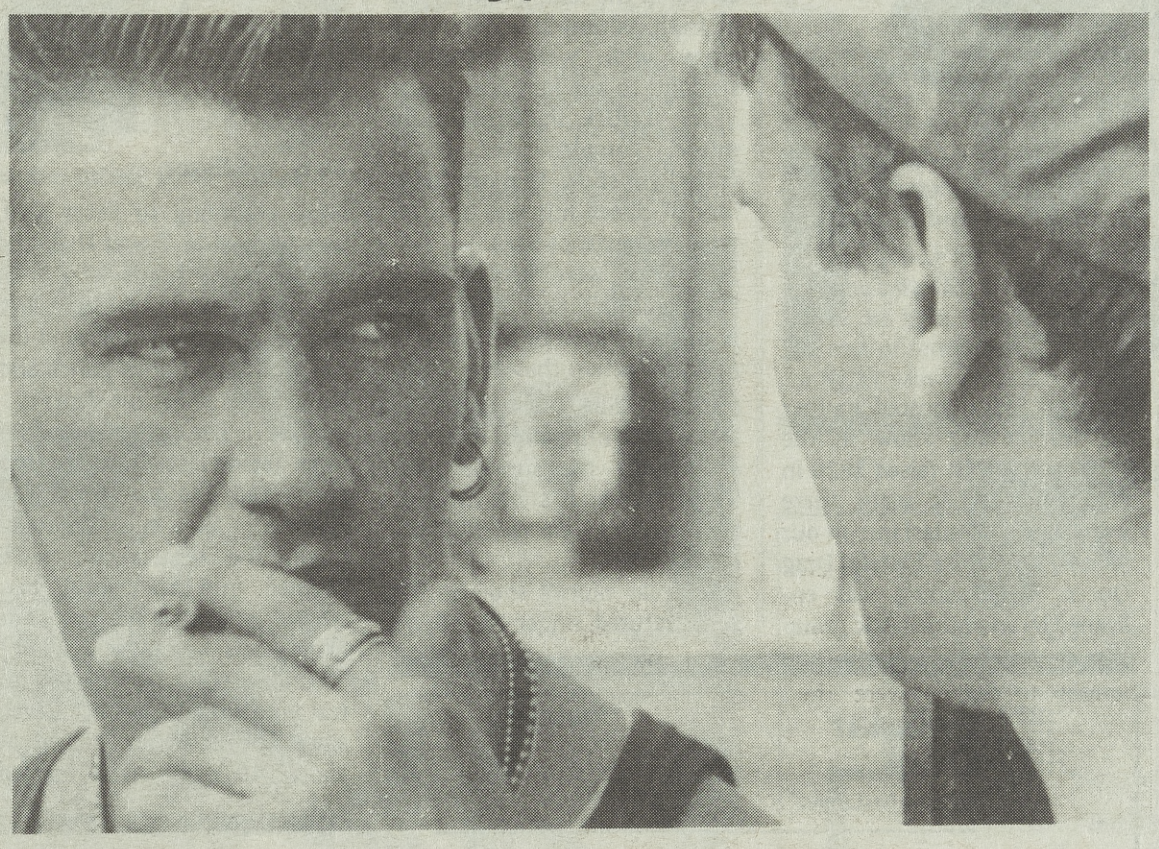
the latest
# ENTERTAINMENT

## Sacramento's First Gay/Lesbian Film Festival

by **Chris Narloch**



For the first time in its history, Sacramento will host a world-class gay and lesbian film festival -- Oct. 8 at the Crest Theater.

The event, as well as being a coup for the River City, benefits two important local charities, the Lambda Community Fund and the Center for AIDS Research Education and Services (C.A.R.E.S.).

The First Annual Sacramento Gay and Lesbian Film Festival is the brainchild of Allen Cole, acting president of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance of Sacramento (G.L.A.S.) at Sacramento State University. Cole promises "something for everyone" with a multi-ethnic, international collection of short films that have played to acclaim and awards at festivals around the world. "There are six titles confirmed for the event," according to Cole.

"Flames of Passion" -- A commuter steals an intriguing set of photographs from a train station photo booth, then comes face to face with the handsome doctor it depicts. A first-class modern gay love story in high contrast black and white, full of flirting, yearning and miscommunication. Winner of 3 awards, including "Best Short" in 1990 at the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.

"Justine's Film" -- Justine seeks refuge with her close friends in order to mend her broken heart. She has literally painted herself into a corner, falling for a woman who will never return her love. When her efforts to forget fail, she decides to undertake a cure for love.

"Billy Turner's Secret" -- An African-American director's tale of roommates Billy and Rufus who share everything, except Billy's secret - he's gay. Rufus isn't ready to deal with it: the only thing he hates more than a faggot is a pushy woman. But when the cousin of Rufus' put-upon girlfriend drops by unexpectedly, it looks like Billy's secret might be out of the bag.

"Can't You Take a Joke?" -- This delightful, stylish comedy, in which boy meets boy and girl meets girl, uses the romantic music and visuals of Hollywood film noir to explore the ideal of love at first sight.

> A multi-ethnic, international collection of films that have played to acclaim around the world.

"The Dead Boy's Club" -- Mark Christopher's accomplished award-winning short comedy. Awkward, nerdy Toby is visiting his N.Y. cousin Packard, who gives him a pair of shoes previously owned by his recently deceased lover. When Toby dons the shoes, he's transported to a world of promiscuity, disco music, hot guys and glitter balls. Voted audience favorite for a short film at the most recent San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.

"I Got This Way From Kissing Girls" -- Against a plain background, and in pointed black and white, the act of kissing is foregrounded. An extended set of women -- a range of ages, races, sizes and types -- embrace and smile and smooch to an evocative, romantic soundtrack.

The evening is co-sponsored by G.L.A.S. and another CSUS organization, Delta Lambda Phi, Sacramento's gay fraternity. James Delaire, president of Delta Lambda Phi, said organizers were looking for a novel approach to fund-raising that would be fun for the gay community. "Some of the recent charity events have flopped in town, and Allen hit on the idea of a film festival," said Delaire, "until now gays have had to go to San Francisco to see this type of thing."

Lou Camera, an advisor to Delta Lambda Phi, who sat in on the committee to choose the films that would be shown, said he was very pleased with the selection, which he thinks "encompasses all aspects of our community. As it turned out, the program will be split almost evenly between lesbian and gay subject matter." The 2 1/2-hour festival contains 69 minutes of male-oriented work and 79 minutes of lesbian film as well as a balance of comedy, drama and romance.

If the Sacramento event is even a fraction of the success of the San Francisco Gay Film Fest was, it promises to be a memorable evening.

Sidney Blackstone, manager of the Crest Theater is similarly optimistic about the Sacramento event and plans for the future. "If it takes off as expected, we want to expand to two or three nights next year." Don't miss out, get your tickets before they're gone.

Tickets are $4 for students and seniors, $6 general and are available at the Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street, C.A.R.E.S., 2710 Capitol Ave. or by calling 442-0185.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# FESTIVAL

*continued from page 3*

the Blue Moon, Anna Marie's, Take 2, the Parking Lot, and every other local women's bar dating back to the times when dinosaurs walked the earth. (A couple of dinosaurs actually WERE spotted doing the two-step. But I digress.)

**Sabina and Joey.**

While the reunion didn't include any organized moments of silence, or other formal memorials that evening, there were lots of shiny, smiling women having a good time prowling and hugging old friends and lovers. And a portion of the night's proceeds were donated to the Festival's donation fund.

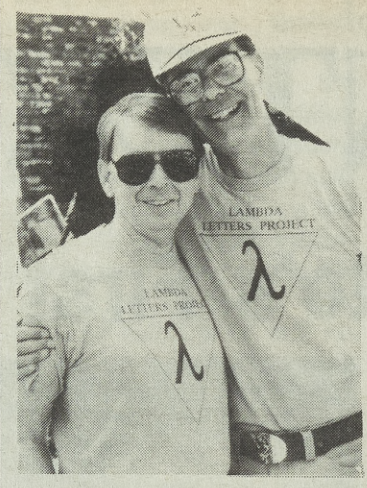
Thursday night Jo Tierney and the new (or lovingly recycled) Empress Stacey hosted another fab leather/drag show in the video bar, which raised $820 in donations. While again, there were no new contestants in our lifelong hunt for a Tasteful Drag Queen, the evening was enlivened by an enthusiastic group of reportedly straight folks (a tour bus, perhaps?) who were seated ringside.

Jo confessed the next day, "It was a good show. But my tongue is SO cramped!"

Friday night offered a new event for the festival, Rave Night, which was held in the tent behind Faces. In the tradition of more underground raves, there were no alcoholic drinks served in the tent, allowing lots of fresh, young kids (including many who were seemingly straight) to bop for hours to the VERY LOUD industrial/house music, complemented by a crazy light show. (A more "traditional" dance mix was also offered in the dance bar.)

And, we were invited to a "real" (illegal) rave held after-hours, conveyed by a teensy (2 inch) invitation that one of our friendly jailbait acquaintances slipped into our palms. Since we are among the sunrise challenged (the body starts dying at about 1 a.m.) we did NOT attend.

Saturday night's show in the tent featured singer Kim Syms who, according to Faces staff, was trapped in Travel Hell, and arrived many hours later than expected, without her two dancers. Local talent filled in the gap, and local hunks Lance and Vance acted as backup dancers.



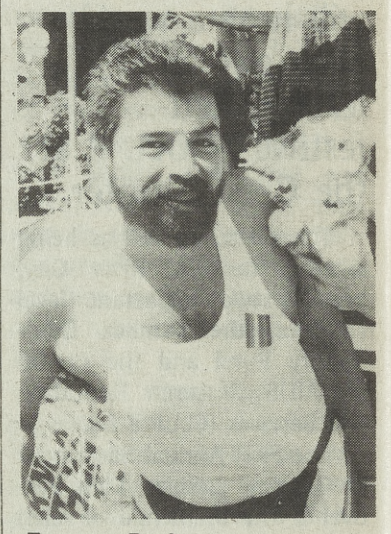

**Larry and Boyce.**

While I had never heard of Sims, (being disco impaired) the crowd had, and gave her a wild reception. As a nice improvement, the tent shows were beamed into the video bar, where we finished her set, comfy on stools, beverages in hand.

Sunday WAS truly a day to test your Fun Endurance Level, since the activities started at about 10 a.m. as a crowd gathered to watch bedraggled, somewhat hungover people clumsily pitch tents for the street fair. The fair, always a high point of the festival, was expanded this year to stretch farther down 20th and K streets, which eased the crowd problems associated with booth trolling.

Booths were sponsored by, among others, political clubs like SLCC, RCDC; media outlets, the latest ISSUE and Patlar; Men's Chorus; several multicultural organizations; and of course, the rent-a restraint booth offered by the Sacramento Leather Association.

*Continued on page 19*



**Emperor Paul.**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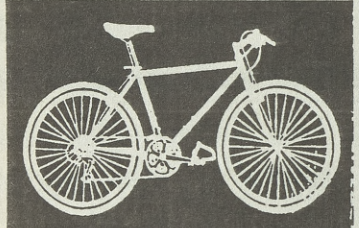

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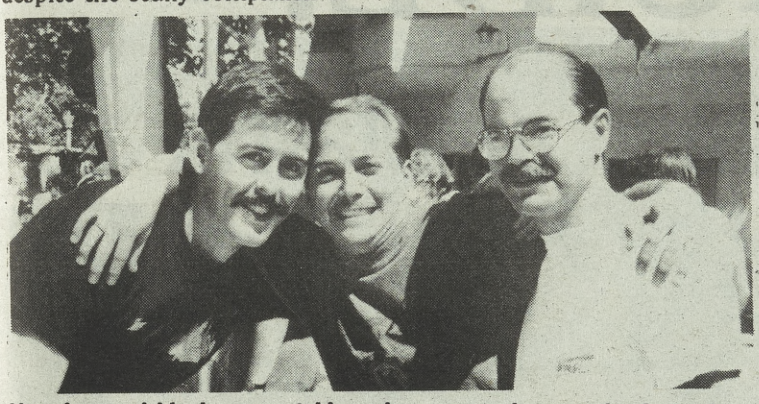
Entertainment was offered in the tent, including a country western show by Men's Chorus members Bill and Dallas. And despite the stuffy complaints of a few, the wet jockey short and the women's wet T shirt contests were real crowd pleasers, and raked in more donations for the fund.



Hugging and kissing was taking place everywhere at the festival. One happy (gay) community!

Sunday night's performance by Rainbow Festival Patron Saint Lois Bromfield (who has appeared every year) was again the entertainment highlight. Bromfield, who several years ago made the scary decision to come out in her act, ("I had to be true to you guys," ) will also be a featured regular in Roseanne and Tom Arnold's new t.v. venture, "The Jackie Thomas Show."

Bromfield also shared her news that her character would come out as a lesbian on the show, ("But first I have to play a serial killer," ) and expressed her gratitude towards the friendly warmth of the Arnolds.

"But it's weird. Roseanne has this new face, because of all the plastic surgery. So now she kinda looks like George Hamilton in a wig."

Bromfield also attempted to work the crowd, despite some truly unintelligible responses from the people at the front of the stage. She deftly handled the occasional drunken heckler, "Aughughkoomnukkm! Yeah, that's great. Learn a language. Then use it."

Monday, the party machine kept churning. Referred to by some staff event organizers as "Recovery Day," the back bar and the patio were again jammed with people for the barbecue/T-dance. We walked by, and after five days, there were STILL crowds of people. But it was too much for us. We were at home sprawled on the couch, phone in hand, busily pricing the cost of renting an iron lung for NEXT year's festival.

Some of the Capital City Square dancers show off a move.

Becca King

Organizers of the Festival deserve thanks for all their hard work to benefit charities.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# that GALLERY GUIDE!

# Learning the Business of Art at Matrix

by **D. Oldham**

**Tina Heringer, board member of the Matrix Gallery and Workshop of Women Artists.**

In 1977, twelve frustrated women artists opened Matrix Gallery, and out of that legacy came a well-known artist's workshop and a membership of over 100 women and men.

Matrix Gallery and Workshop of Women Artists is a non-profit organization, owing its survival to membership dues, grant money and enthusiastic volunteers who staff and run the gallery. Membership is open to any artist or non-artist who is interested in learning about art and the business of running a gallery.

Members pay yearly dues, attend committee meetings and are required to work in the gallery four hours every two months. The members assist in the exhibitions and learn how a gallery operates through first hand experience.

In the past, male artists have been perceived as being more serious than their female counterparts, but through workshops and public relations, Matrix has been making great strides in clearing that misconception. Successful workshops like the annual "Artwise," help artists learn how to approach galleries and take an active part in marketing their artwork.

Help is also available through other members, in the form of advice on press releases, resumes and contacts with other galleries.

"This is a job," says board member Tina Heringer, "Matrix lets you know this, schools just don't teach the business side of art."

The gallery does not require the artist to sign a contract which allows the artist to learn through exhibiting without giving up the freedom to show in other area galleries.

The success of these workshops has brought the gallery membership up 300% in the past three years and the gallery is fast outgrowing the I Street space it has occupied since 1987. The current space includes 2 exhibition spaces and a classroom, all of which are filled by the Gallery/Workshop's busy schedule.

Future plans for Matrix include expansion, and according to Heringer, a possible merge with another Sacramento non-profit -- the I.D.E.A. Gallery. The Institute for Design and Experimental Art (I.D.E.A.) is also a membership gallery and shares many of its members with Matrix.

Another sign of Matrix Gallery's recent growth is the change in the annual membership show. The gallery will be extending the exhibition to two months and making the member's show into two separate exhibitions. "Matrix Membership Show From A to L" will open with a reception on Saturday, Sept. 26, and it's companion exhibit, "Matrix Membership Show From M to Z" will open in October, (check the gallery listing for dates and times).

This will be the first time the exhibit has been split and will also include poetry, performance are as well as visual art. These two membership shows offer a perfect opportunity to sample the diverse artists that make Matrix Gallery and Workshop of Women Artists one of the fastest growing arts organizations in Sacramento. Make plans to attend the opening reception and find out why this not-for-profit gallery has become a Sacramento tradition, or better yet, become a member and find out how a gallery really works!

**Matrix Gallery and Workshop of Women Artists**
1725 I Street
(916) 441-4818
Gallery Hours: Wednesday-Sunday 11:30-4:30 p.m.
Saturday Sept. 26: Reception for "Matrix Membership Show A to L" 7 - 9 p.m., Saturday, October 24: Reception for "Matrix Membership Show M to Z" 7 - 9 p.m.


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# Indigo Girls Share Their Rites of Passage

The Indigo Girls.

by **Bill Peterson**

The latest offering from the Indigo Girls features several catchy melodies -- teeming with literary references -- and those great Indigo vocal harmonies.

Helping to expand their palette are a few of Sioxsie's Banshees, embellishing with cello, percussion and accordion.

Sometimes the pretense drags down the material, as on "Virginia Woolf," whereas "Galileo" seems genuinely intelligent as a contagiously uplifting tune about past lives and reincarnation.

Elsewhere, the Girls sound like a modern Simon and Garfunkel, as on the beautiful song, "Ghost." **$11.69**

## Mark Curry "It's Only Time"

The debut compact disc from South Sacramento's favorite son Mark Curry is what you'd expect from a gene splicing of John Mellencamp and Tom Waits, with a dash of Tracy Chapman.

Curry's voice is aged beyond his 24 years, and judging from the down and out lyrics, he's definitely lived a full life already. But Curry's writing skills and sincerity make each song memorable -- from the super-caffeinated "Blow Me Down" to the quiet elegance of the cello-enhanced "It's Only Time." **$13.00**

## Morrissey "Your Arsenal"

With Morrissey's third solo album, "Your Arsenal," he lightens up a bit on the angst-ridden role model he has become and beefs up the sound, while still retaining the cleverly named songs ("Seasick, Yet Still Docked" and "You're the One For Me, Fatty").

"We Hate it When Our Friends Become Successful," the first single, straddles the line between dead-on commentary and introspective whining, becoming an unexpected joy. If his self-absorbed droning has held you at arm's length in the past, "Your Arsenal" could finally break the ice and make you a fan. **$11.75**

## Kitchens of Distinction

With a drum and bass-heavy modern rock sound and heartfelt lyrics, the third album from London's Kitchens of Distinction continues in same path as the previous two.

This new album is more personal than 1991's "Strange Free World" with lyrics that convey the pain of being left behind. "My hands hit the concrete floor until my fingers bled/I will cut him out of my heart" and also anger at persecution "He's expecting his favorite guest, the boy with easy virtues/But when the boy arrives, he's got a black eye, from the lads who plague us outside." **$10.95**

Kitchens of Distinction.

***Albums are priced according to their actual worth on a scale from one cent to $15.98, the suggested list price of a new compact disc.***

# Kym Sims Wows the Festival

This month's Rainbow Festival, held over Labor Day Weekend, was enlivened by the energetic performance of Atco Records artist Kym Sims.

During the show, Sims sang several songs from her album, including the hits "Too Blind to See It" and "Take My Advice," accompanied by prerecorded music and two local dancers.

In an interview with the latest ISSUE following the show, Sims revealed herself to be a sincere and intelligent woman. She got her start as a jingle singer doing spots for McDonald's and Double Mint gum among other products. Sims is married and has a son and a daughter.

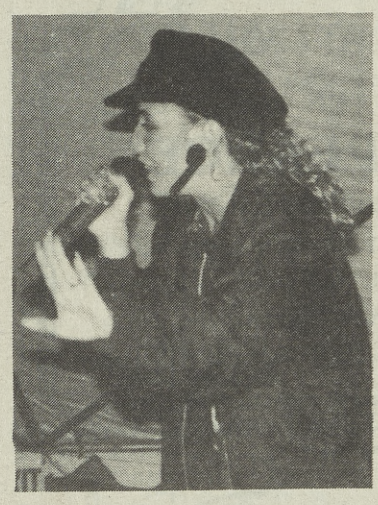
With her first album, she has earned a gold record for the hit "Too Blind to See It" and another gold for "Keep on Walking," which she wrote for CeCe Peniston.

> She got her start as a jingle singer.

Sims is currently working on her next video single "Shoulda Known Better" from her current compact disc.

Asked why she flew out from Chicago for Sacramento's festival, Sims explained that the gay community has helped propel her career. "They're the best crowds I've performed for," she said, "because they want you to give your best and they give it back to you."

Judging from the crowd's response and Sims' enthusiasm, we'll be seeing more of Kym Sims in the future.



Kym Sims.

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# RUMOR HAS IT

Zippity do dah, zippity day, **Hamburger Mary's** is on its way! Believe it or not, downtown Sacramento will soon be home to a brand new **Hamburger Mary's**, thanks to entrepreneur **Shannon McCullough**. Yes, that **Shannon** -- the gorgeous blonde bartender at Faces. Shannon tells us his restaurant will be vibrant and fun, will serve food late into the evening, and will always be packed with the most attractive and eligible gay men and lesbians in town. Does this guy know how to attract business or what?

Congratulations to **Mike** and **Paul** who are planning their holy union for Fall. Like all good planners, **Mike** and **Paul** went out the other day to register for gifts, and were shocked to learn that Sears has no bridal registry. Sears?? They say they wanted tools, hmmmmm. No pun intended I'm sure.

Happy birthday to Sacramento's favorite hairdresser, **Anne Lindquist** of **Bangs Hair Studio**. Also celebrating birthdays in September are cartoonist **Dale Zeitler**, music reviewer **Bill Peterson**, artist of all trades **P.J. Dunker**, photographer **Becca King**, and mayor-elect **Joe Serna**. Who says 40 is middle aged? Not **Joseph Martinez** who celebrates the big 4-0 this month.

**Patty Pardue and Jo Tierney emcees of the wet t-shirt contest.**

**Patty Pardue** and **Jo Tierney** seemed to have a great time emceeing the wet t-shirt contest at the **Rainbow Festival**. Not to mention the wet and wild time had by **Sara Myers** of **the latest ISSUE** who had the honor of doing the wetting. Congratulations to wet t-shirt winner **Carolina.**

Word on the street is that one of our prominent mortgage bankers is now sporting a pierced nipple thanks to a few too many cocktails at the Rainbow Festival. Talk about dressing for success...

Speaking of successful businessmen, congratulations to **Brad Bauer** and **Dan Huffman** on the purchase of their new home in Folsom. Congrats are also in order for **Lisa D.**, former Sacramentan, for landing a fabulous new teaching job in the Santa Maria area.

Did you see the great big ad in the Sacramento Bee with **Kim Wallace** and her dog **Bob** advertising **Premium Pet Supply**? Well, Bob is wearing no collar -- what do you suppose that means? When he does have a collar on, does it have a little padlock on it? I'm really not sure.

Yes, **Off the Edge** fans, another month has passed and **Stacy Selmants** is still on the job at **California Association of AIDS Agencies**. Co-worker **Jim O'Brien**, who was not mentioned in this space last month, wants you to know that just because he's not gay doesn't mean he's not there. Sorry we left you out last time, **Jim**, we appreciate your contribution too.

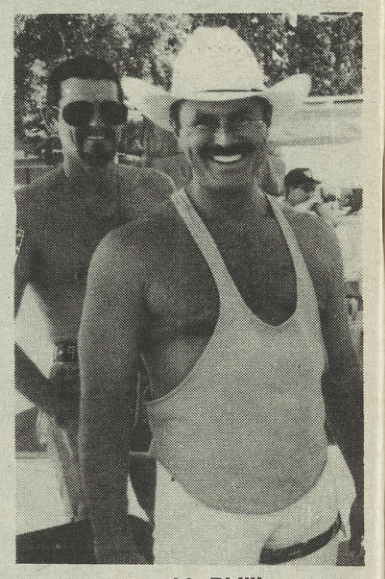
Sacramento real estate whiz **Jayne Rountree** was recently appointed by the Board of Supervisors to a position on the Natomas Community Planning Advisory Council. If she gives even a fraction of the energy to the advisory council that she gives to her clients, she's sure to be a big success.

Who says Sacramento isn't a real city? On October 8 we will be home to a world class gay and lesbian film festival thanks to the hard work of **Allen Cole**, **James Delaire**, and other energetic Sac State students. Let's make this an annual event by turning out in full force to support this year's festival!

And our real city status should certainly be strengthened by the fact that we soon will have two gyms catering largely to the gay and lesbian community. Oh, you haven't heard? News being whispered downtown is that a new gym, run by two gay men, will be open soon. Stay tuned for more information.

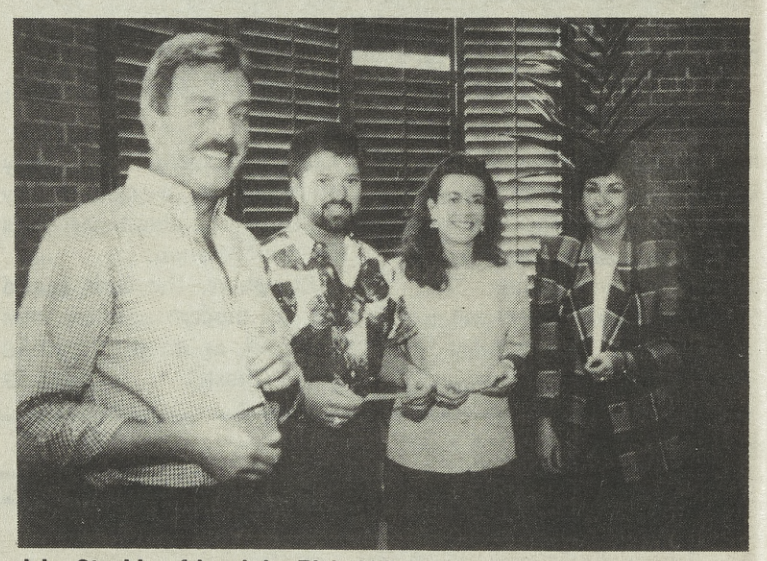
The **Lesbian and Gay Business Alliance** will soon be so call 641-8775 now to reserve your space.

The **Rainbow Real Estate**



**Randy Gray with Phillipe Gerard.**

**Professionals** have been hard at work raising money these days. They recently presented checks to **Lambda**, the **Sacramento AIDS Foundation**, and **Hope**



**Jake Steuble of Lambda, Rick Oldham (rep.Hope House) and Beth Coleman of the Sacramento AIDS Foundation recieve checks from Bridget Maron of Rainbow Real Estate.**

publishing a business directory. Don't miss your chance to have your business listed in the directory that will be kept by the phone in many "family" homes. Listings cost only $10 and advertisements range from $25 to $125. The deadline for ads and listings is October 15,

**House** in a typical show of support for the community they serve. Keep up the good work **RREP**.

Local leather hunk **Randy Gray** sends word that the AIDS benefit Bare Chest Calendar has been a big success, thanks in

*Continued on page 23*


Joan Frazzini,
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no small part to photographer **James Williams**. Only 3,000 calendars were printed, so act quickly to get your copy -- a steal at only $10. Call us at the latest ISSUE for information on distribution points.

Wanted by police: house thief who hates Bruce Springsteen. When **Colleen** and **Lori's** house was burglarized recently, their entire CD collection was taken, with one exception -- their Bruce Springsteen CD which was left neatly (and apparently deliberately) on the shelf. A Boss hater? This just confirms the fact that burglars are people of very low quality. But seriously, **Colleen** and **Lori** send a huge "thanks" to their neighbors, **the D street girls**, for helping them through the crisis.

Congratulations to the many-degreed black belt **Esther Ritter** for adding yet another to her collection. Her newest black belt was earned in recent testing in Japan. Keep up the good work, **Esther**. You make us proud!

What do the **River City Metropolitan Community Church** and **the Mercantile Saloon** have in common? Both are celebrating monumental anniversaries! Thanks to **MCC** and to **the Merc** for their many years of service to our community.

**Harry O, Meta, La La, Frank and a good friend gather to remember the good times at the Underpass.**

The **Underpass/Broadway** was around for many years and Faces held a reunion party for the old gang. **Meta** and **Frank** were hanging out with **Underpass** bartenders **LaLa**, and of course **Harry O. Whalen Black** provided the mood music.

**Black** is going to be playing his jazz for the **Mercantile Saloon** Anniversary Party, Oct 4.

**Martin Casey** is planning to take over the reins at **The Patlar** (yes **Amanda**, we do have more than one gay paper in this town!) soon. He has consulted with many of the brilliant business minds in the gay community and we -- I mean they -- have all assured him he will be a great success.

Word from the **California Great Northwest Imperial Empire** is that our new Duke and Duchess are **J.P.** and **Shondra**. Congrats to the royalty!

Don't forget that October 11 is **National Coming Out Day**. **Mark Hoffman** and **Lily Andrews**, are spearheading the local NCOD effort. **The River City Democratic Club** has chosen the day to host their annual community awards dinner. Be proud, Sacramento. Think about your next step and bravely take it on October 11.

**Martin Casey and Michael Gorman at the Patlar booth during the Rainbow Festival. Martin says, "I'm going to be a publisher."**


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# OFF THE EDGE

## Roommates From Hell On the Next Oprah

by **Stacy Selmants**

**The winner, at press time, in the "Roommate From Hell" Contest is my stud-bait co-worker, Kurt, who sheepishly confessed that he once sprayed anti-perspirant, on a daily basis, on all of his roommate's houseplants until they all finally died a horrible, choking death.**

"Oh, no, I'm all right! It's just a flesh wound! A little Miracle-Gro fertilizer and I'll be as right as rain!" (There's nothing more pathetic than the sound of a spider plant in the midst of serious denial.)

But this was no cheap, easy one-shot type of roomie revenge. No, it won the prize because its sense of evil whimsy, as well as the energy and premeditation it took to apply the repeated, layered doses of Soft n' Dry. (Spring Meadow scent.) And there was a methodical purpose, despite Kurt's feeble excuse (in some minds) for torturing the unnamed roommate (oh, let's just call him Biff).

Biff's crime, his contribution to Roommate Hell, was that he - in a daring leap into the competitive, cutthroat world of interior design -- decided to adorn the walls of the dorm room with used pizza boxes. While I admire the courageous artistic vision of mounting dozens of boxes, including the attendant flies, as wall decoration/sound proofing, many people might argue that I am defending a particular textile wall treatment which truly defines the term "fashion risk". Hey, it might have been offensive, but it was oh, so bio-degradable.

But then, some might question MY taste, as I proudly display on my front deck a swirling, multi-colored, plaster of Paris head that was abandoned in the back alley by a deranged neighborhood artist. It bears an uncanny resemblance to Edward Gore's painting, "The Scream," and we call him "Bud, the Cabana God." (My cartoony friend Dale has a standard response to Bud. "Hmmm. Is it Art, or is it Terrorism?") But I digress.

The only roommates I've had in the last few years (including my lovely wife Suzanne) have been the kind that you kiss goodnight before you cop a feel. But the old roomie reminders came drifting back with all the media heat about the recent release of the high grossing slasher movie "Single White Female" about an unsuspecting Bridget Fonda who takes in a psychotic roomie.

**ALL of us -- at one time or another -- can become Roommates From Hell.**

Ah, the memories are becoming a flood now. There was my housemate John, who one lonely (and beer enhanced) 3 a.m. climbed into my bed, until I made him a new elbow out of a few spare body parts. Matt and Rob, the other guys in the house, (okay it was sort of like a scout troop who had gone through puberty) ceremoniously changed the locks after throwing John's belongings out in the lawn. Some they even set on fire. We still have Polaroids -- the scene was one of the highlights of 1981.

There was Dave, a divorcee-wannabe, who wavered in his desire between his wife, the army sergeant or any and all of our female guests, until he "fell in love" with the counter girl at McDonalds, because she gave him extra fries.

This last weekend I was startled to see a former roommate/lover, Frank on television. He now has my dream job, co-hosting a talk show where there are absolutely NO guests. (Mine would be called "How Was Your Day, Dear?" and is reasonably self-explanatory. His is a half hour with a bunch of his sports-writer friends arguing at a feverish pitch about their own football picks.) I don't think it's fair; back then he tried to bed the woman with whom I was in love (I won) and now he's getting revenge a decade later by getting all my t.v. exposure.

A more recent mistake was a woman who I dated briefly, then took in as a quasi-roommate, due partly to a short term economic emergency (my miniature golf course with all the natural water hazards next to the Rancho Seco cooling ponds just never QUITE took off.) Unfortunately, besides beginning to date elderly men, ("I have needs," she would sniff,) she began singing perky, upbeat Elvis tunes like "In the Ghetto" at 4 a.m. on school nights. I was able to throw her out, but for quite a while she would still sneak over during the day. I always knew, because she always left out bologna, with strange, savage little teeth marks, until I finally had to change the locks.

But I've been reasonably lucky. Most of my former roommates are still among my best friends. (If you can endure my short, yet endearingly manic version of PMS, you've got a a friend for life.) And, they never were bored, and I taught many of them how to cook things other than Top Ramen and Pop Tarts.

But besides talking about finances, housework, and sexual habits, there are other more esoteric screening devices. My most loyal former roommate, Barbara, and I devised a surefire test for all prospective roommates, over a decade ago, because ALL of us -- at one time or another -- can become Roommates From Hell. The answer to this final question in our interviews was always the most crucial. We would give the prospective boarder the once over, then, with a slight leer, "So. Do you take abuse well?"

If they laughed, they were in.


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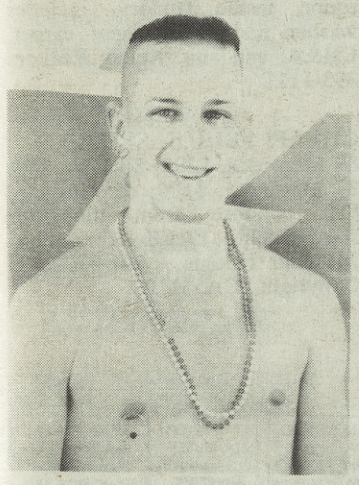
# street WHYS

by Karen Jay

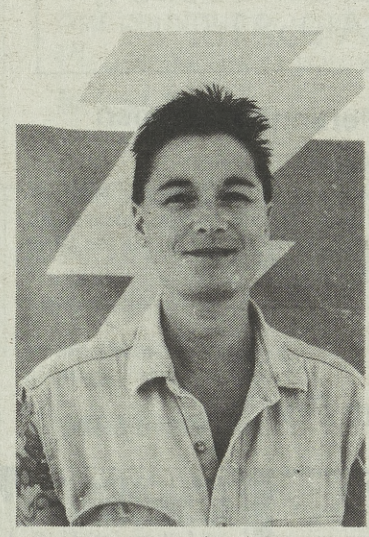
## What is S&M to you?



**Mike Dehart**
"S&M is the liberation of your mind from your body and transcending your body. It is also similar to orgasm because it releases some of the same chemicals."

**Terri Sandberg**
"S&M to me is being in control, being in bondage, taking control of the person and letting them know who the master is."

**Wayne Kern**
"Up to now it's been a game that sometimes you get in bed and test how far they'll go -- if you trust the person you want to see how far you can take it."



**Christie Nehlick**
"S&M is fun as long as you don't push it too far. You won't enjoy what you've already got. S&M means having a wonderful woman, (which I do have,) who makes it a lot of fun."

**Shawna Cooke**
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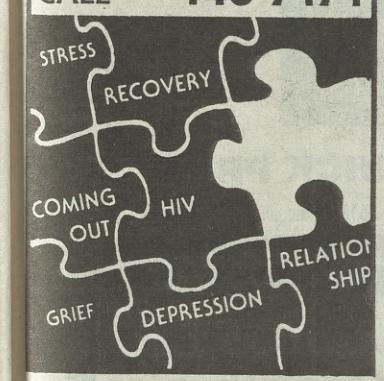


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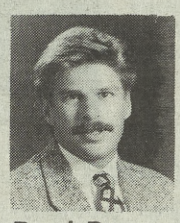

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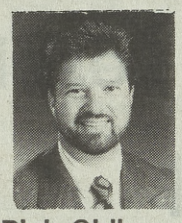

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SOME OF US HAVE SEEN PLENTY, THOUGH! THAT WAS QUITE A LITTLE SHOW MALIKA TAPED OF YOU TWO IN BED!
HERE'S AN IDEA! HOW ABOUT IF I TAKE THEIR VIDEO WITHOUT GINGER'S KNOWLEDGE, AND SUBMIT IT TO AN AMATEUR LESBIAN PORNO CONTEST WHERE IT WINS FIRST PRIZE!
I LIKE IT! THEN ME AND SOME OF GINGER'S OTHER STUDENTS COULD SEE IT AT A PARTY AND THREATEN TO SHOW THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT UNLESS WE ALL GET A's!
OH, PUH-LEAZE! WHAT ARE WE WRITING HERE, A TV MOVIE? THAT'S SHEER BATHOS! I DON'T THINK YOSHI SHOULD CONTRIBUTE UNTIL SHE PASSES MY FRESHMAN COMPOSITION CLASS!
LET'S REMEMBER TO KEEP OUR COMMENTS POSITIVE GINGER. NOW, WHAT ABOUT YOU AND MALIKA?
WE'RE TOTALLY IN LOVE! JUST LOOK AT THESE PHONE BILLS. UH... I GET REIMBURSED FOR THIS, RIGHT? I MEAN, IT IS A BUSINESS EXPENSE!
HEY, IF SHE GETS HER PHONE BILLS PAID, THEN I OUGHTA GET HALF MY RENT PAID! I'M TOTALLY BROKE, AND IT WASN'T MY IDEA FOR HARRIET TO MOVE OUT!
HEY, HARRIET! WE'VE BEEN DYING TO KNOW... ARE YOU SLEEPING WITH THAT WOMAN WE SAW YOU WITH AT THE PRO-CHOICE RALLY?
WELL, NO... BUT IT MIGHT BE AN INTERESTING PLOT DEVELOPMENT IF I DID HAVE AN AFFAIR WITH ELLEN. I THINK IT WOULD HELP FLESH OUT MY CHARACTER, SHOW US WHAT REALLY MAKES HARRIET TICK.
WHAT BULLSHIT! I THINK IT WOULD BE AN INTERESTING PLOT DEVELOPMENT IF ELLEN TURNED OUT TO BE A PRE-OP TRANSSEXUAL!
HEY, I LIKE IT! IT'S TIMELY, HIP, PLENTY OF HUMAN INTEREST!
WOULD WE HAVE TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE STRIP? YOU KNOW, TO "DYKES AND TRANSGENDERAL PERSONS TO WATCH OUT FOR?"
COULD WE PLEASE STICK TO THE AGENDA? I'D LIKE TO MOVE THAT NO NEW CHARACTERS BE INTRODUCED UNTIL I GET PROPERLY ESTABLISHED HERE!
I THOUGHT I WAS GONNA GET TO BE A WHOLE, 2-DIMENSIONAL CHARACTER LIKE THE REST OF YOU! BUT Nooo. I JUST SHOW UPON MY CRUTCHES EVERY TENTH EPISODE, LIKE A GODDAMN POSTER CHILD!
YOU THINK YOU HAVE IT BAD? TRY BEING A JEW IN THIS GOYISHER CARTOON! I GOT USED ONCE IN A PASSOVER STRIP 5 YEARS AGO, THEN BUBKES!
EXCUSE ME, BUT BEFORE WE GET INTO ALL THIS... WHAT ABOUT MY RENT CHECK?
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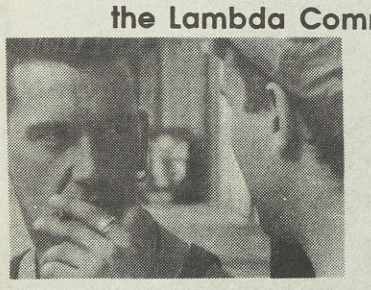

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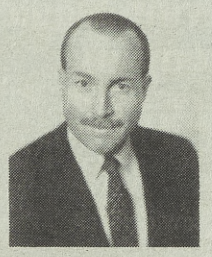

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**Sandra Fields, Ph.D.** #LCS3725, 2740 Fulton Ave. Suite 120, Sacramento. 484-6376.

**Joan Frazzini L.C.S.W.,** LG#9415, 1731 I Street, Sacramento. 447-9114.

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**Bob Hall M.F.C.C.,** 2740 Fulton Ave. Suite 100-D, Sacramento. 481-9141.

**Phyllis A. Kaufman, Ph.D., L.C.S.W.,** 788 University Ave., Sacramento. 929-8222. #LCS05123

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**David W. Miller, M.F.C.C.,** 601 University Ave., #213, Sacramento. 565-0631. Lic. #MFC28872.

**Tori Trask, M.A.,** #IMF20668, 3550 Watt Ave. 483-9419. Intern for Jerri Sims, Ph.D., M.F.C.C.

**Pamela Smithstan, M.A.,** #IMF20851, 1216 18th Street. 739-0866. Inter for Sharon Hartley, L.C.S.W.

**Ellie Zacks, Ph.D.,** 7509 Madison Ave. B-105, Citrus Heights. 967-3513.

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**Sacramento AIDS Foundation,** 920 20th Street, Sacramento. 448-2437.

**SACWN,** Sacramento Area Career Women's Network, P.O. Box 661332, Sacramento, 95866. 486-8985.

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**Vicki Pfingst,** Broker, Pfingst Realty, 362-1166 or 395-0490.

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